

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 36, Number 2

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, November 30, 1972

OLD TOPICS VIE FOR ATTENTION AT MONDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING

by Bob McGee

The Greenbelt city council handled a long, feisty agenda, at its regular meeting, Monday, November 20, about as easily as a buzz saw cutting through butter. Only a few spots were left to clean up at the next meeting, yet everyone, including councilmen and audience, seemed to have been heard. Key items were the formation of a Youth Advisory Council, the amendment of the city code to provide for the location and maintenance of large size refuse containers, and action to inform appropriate county agencies of the city's position in regard to the proposed revision of the Ten-Year Water and Sewer plan to permit a temporary sewage plant to serve Greenbriar, in regard to the potential development of the Agricultural Research Center, and in reference to the property tax differential bill.

In an effort to get at further control of a large trash receptacle which serves a local apartment building, and which has repeatedly been in the news in recent months because of objections by neighbors to the way it has been maintained, council passed an ordinance which provides for the location and maintenance of refuse and garbage containers.

City manager James Giese pointed out that the ordinance does not force the owner to keep the container clean, but it was apparent that council felt it had finally dumped this particular load of trash for awhile.

Youth Council Formed

In somewhat of a surprise vote, council authorized the formation of a Greenbelt Youth Advisory Council. Councilwoman Elizabeth Maffray had introduced the matter, but, in response to questions, had not developed any background information on the topic. "I just think it's a good idea," she said. She was supported in her view by Ben Hogenon, 53 Ridge Road, who stated that such a body worked quite well in California where he had previously lived.

Mike McMahon, 27A Ridge, said that he had served on the last Greenbelt Youth Council and suggested that it had died a slow death because it was too large and because it was not given a real meaningful job to do. He recommended that council explore the matter further before voting to establish a new body. The other comments seemed to be along this line—that it's a good idea, but bears further exploration—but when the question was called, council voted unanimously to establish a Youth Council.

Greenbriar Plant

Council Council Bill 191 provides for the annual revision of the Ten Year Water and Sewer plan and, of significance to Greenbelters, changes the plan to provide for a temporary sewage treatment plant to serve the Greenbriar development until such time as the Western Branch sewage treatment plant is expanded.

Manager Giese stated that council has considered the matter of a temporary sewage treatment plant for this development on several previous occasions and in Resolution No. 229, established a position which he felt would cover the present situation.

He suggested that he simply write a letter to the county council and other appropriate agencies pointing out this prior position.

(In that resolution the council requested the County Council to not amend the ten year plan to provide for a point of discharge for the Greenbriar temporary sewage plant unless it has received assurances from all responsible county and state agencies that the effluent from the plant would not constitute a health or ecological risk; and that, if approval were to be given, it be conditioned upon stipulations

See CITY COUNCIL p 4, col 1

Greenbriar Offers To Abide by Conditions

The campaign to get county approval of an on-site temporary sewage treatment plant for the Greenbriar apartment complex moved into high gear last week as the developer, Greenbriar Associates, tried to convince doubters that health requirements will be met.

The developer has already agreed to conditions recommended by the Prince Georges county council under which package sewage treatment plants may be allowed in the county. Additionally, in a letter dated November 21, 1972 to county health officer Dr. Perry Stearns, Greenbriar consultant Dr. John T. Cookson, Jr., outlined twelve conditions that he had "been authorized by the developer to commit him to perform." These conditions are substantially the same as the ones recommended by Dr. Stearns in his February 14, 1972 letter to the county, including the city's recommendations that the effluent will be enclosed in a pipe to a point in the stream where there is a continuous year-round flow of water.

Dr. Stearns, who opposed the plant in February, has indicated that his objections "on a health basis" could be overcome if the virus - inactivating processes recently proposed by the developer and the stipulations set down by his office and that of the city of Greenbelt are included in the construction requirements of the plant.

Among the conditions are a recycling capability to be built into the plant; a double completely independent - power supply, plant operation by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, virus destruction system and diversion of the incoming sewage in the case of malfunction into the Greenbriar Pumping Station as is done at the Landover Mall plant.

According to the WSSC, construction of the pumping station will probably not be completed until after the treatment plant is operational, therefore, the latter stipulation could not immediately go into effect. In this event a holding pond would be used in the interim as a safety measure.

ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

With this issue, the News Review is celebrating its 35th birthday. Despite overburdened editors, uncertain finances, frequent changes of personnel, and a libel suit, the paper has been coming out faithfully once a week for 35 years.

To mark the occasion, this week's issue contains a special supplement featuring selected articles, columns, editorials, and letters from past issues that had more than passing interest. Since a similar selection appeared in our 30th anniversary issue, those appearing here mainly represent the last 5 years.

SOC C ASKS AID

The Greenbelt Save Our Community Committee (SOCC) is seeking urgently needed funds for its appeal of the Prince Georges Circuit Court ruling on the Greenbriar apartments special exception zoning decision.

Chairman Thomas X. White asks that donations be deposited in the SOCC account at Twin Pines Savings & Loan, in the Greenbelt Center Mall. Alternatively, contributions may be mailed or delivered to White's home at 8 Woodland Way, Greenbelt.

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Monday, Dec. 4, 1972
8:00 P.M.

I ORGANIZATION

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Roll Call
- 3 Meditation
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- 4 Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 20, 1972
- 5 Minutes of Special Meeting of November 27, 1972
- 6 Additions to Agenda by Councilmen and Manager

II COMMUNICATIONS

- 6 Petitions and Requests
- 7 Administrative Reports
- 8 Committee Reports

III OLD BUSINESS

- 9 An Ordinance to Make Additional Appropriations in the Capital Improvement Fund in the Amount of \$91,000 Thereby Making Total Appropriations for this Fund Amount to \$1,040,400 - Second Reading
- 10 Largo Sports Arena

IV NEW BUSINESS

- 11 An Ordinance to Amend Section 3-9 of the Greenbelt City Code in Order to Remove the Requirement that Cats and Other Animal Pets Shall be Confined at all Times to the Premises of the Owner except when under the Direct and Immediate Control of a Responsible Person - First Reading
- 12 An Ordinance to Add a New Section 5-A "Revenue Sharing Fund" of Chapter 8 "Finance and Taxation" of the Greenbelt City Code to Provide for the Receiving, Disbursing and Temporary Investing of Funds Received from the United States of America under the Fiscal Assistance to State and Local Governments Act of 1972 - 1st Reading
- 13 Amendment to Job Classification Plan
- 14 Advisory Board Reports
- 15 Change of Meeting Dates
- 16 Special Holiday

V MISCELLANEOUS

1973 GHI Budget Takes Shape At Board Meeting on Nov. 21

by Al Skolnik

The Greenbelt Homes, Inc., board of directors almost had an approved budget at its November 21 meeting but at the last minute a hang-up developed over a request for allowing funds for a planning engineer and over whether the board had been given timely notice of such a request. Nevertheless, the shape of the 1973 budget was clearly outlined and final approval will be given the document at tonight's (November 30) meeting of the board.

The budget calls for an approximate average increase in total monthly charges of 7½ percent — for the brick homes it will be a little more, and for the frame homes a little less. The increase would be effective January 1, 1973.

In terms of operating costs (which exclude mortgage payments and use of reserve funds), the increase is roughly 9 percent or \$162,000. The board was thus able to avoid the calling of a special membership meeting to approve the budget (the GHI by-laws require that the membership must approve any increase in operating expenses of 10 percent or more).

Trim Paint Program Cut

The major board cut in the budget was a reduction in the proposed catch-up work on the trim paint program. The paint program will resume its 5-year cycle (one-fifth of the homes painted each year — 115 masonry and 200 frame) but deleted will be the stepped-up work involving another 55 masonry and 130 frame units. This catch-up work has been proposed to make up for the elimination of the program for 1971 and the late start in 1972.

This decision involves a reduction of \$36,500 in the 1973 budget. Money allowed for the trim paint program now amounts to \$59,850 of which \$10,500 will come from last years left-over trim paint funds which were appropriated in the 1972 budget but not used.

New Personnel

Offsetting this cut to some extent was a \$10,000 addition to the budget to allow GHI to employ a director of member relations — one of the CMP management survey recommendations. This issue was the only one that found the board badly divided. Approving this item were directors James Smith, Dave Lange, Janet James, Tom White, and Norman Weyel. Opposed were Nat Shinderman, Don Volk, Tony Lynch, and Howard Brooks.

The major reasons given for opposition were that the board had not clarified its thinking as to what the duties and scope of this position should be, where it would be located administratively, and its level of responsibility. The majority felt that money should be allowed in the budget so that GHI could move ahead this year when the board and the membership resolve the issues involved in setting up this position.

The question of allowing money in the budget for other positions that were recommended by the CMP report kept recurring. Toward the end of the meeting a proposal by Lange to allow \$12,500 for a planning engineer who would be able to help in the evaluation and initiation of a rehabilitation program was tabled until tonight's

meeting because of opposition from White and Lynch, who said they did not have enough time to evaluate it.

Other Budget Changes

Other changes in the budget were minimal. The board reduced the payroll by \$1,540, to take into account the likelihood that the new accountant for the fiscal department will not be recruited until later in the year. It added \$400 to membership meeting expenses to allow for extra meetings that will probably be called to discuss decisions on the CMP and TAA surveys. It decided to pay off the 15-year note to the city for Hillside/Greenhill Road street improvements, thus eliminating yearly payments of \$525 which are now charged to members.

On the income side, the board approved the manager's recommendations that the charge to members for services not covered by the GHI contract be raised from \$9 to \$9.50 an hour, that rental fees for the boat and trailer yards be hiked 50 cents a month, and that the GHI fee for subleasing be raised from 5 to 7 percent of the monthly rent.

Relief for the Elderly

One sticky matter left for the board to handle concerns the deferral of increases in monthly charges for the low-income elderly and the disabled. At the December 9, 1971 special membership meeting, the members approved a proposal for deferring the 1972 increase in monthly charges for a member who is 65 years of age or disabled and whose annual income is \$2,400 or less (\$3,600 for a family). The member must agree that the corporation may apply the sum of such deferred increase in monthly charges against the selling price of the unit when the member leaves the corporation. An interest charge of 6 percent per annum is tacked on to the deferred increase. To pay for this deferral, the monthly charges of all the members were increased by 25 cents.

GHI manager Roy Breashears reported to the board that 18 elderly persons have taken advantage of this measure, resulting in a deferral of \$2,700 in charges. The money collected during 1972 from the 25 cent charge was \$5,000. Thus, GHI has sufficient money to about cover the 1972 deferrals throughout 1973.

The question unsettled is whether the board has authority to continue the 1972 deferrals. If the board does not have such authority, then the 18 participants will have to pay higher charges in 1973 of more than 20 percent (the 7½ percent increase in the 1973 charges and the 1972 deferred increase of about 14 percent). Everyone agreed that such a combined increase could be devastating to this group.

Paint Branch Pro-Musica Medieval Concert Sunday

As part of the launching weekend for the Greenbelt Festival of Lights, the Paint Branch Pro-Musica will present a concert of medieval music. The concert will take place this Sunday at 3:30 p.m. in the Youth Center, and will include a lighting of the Chanukah candles.

The Festival officially begins Friday with a crafts show, which will offer for sale inexpensive handmade items including pottery, woven goods, decoupage, silver jewelry, crochet items, ornaments, leather craft, stained glass, wall hangings, posters, clothing and stuffed toys. More than forty craftsmen will participate.

For young shoppers exclusively, the Children's Room will be open Saturday from one to eight p.m., and Sunday from one to five p.m. Offering inexpensive gifts the room will be in the studio of the Youth Center and will include craft activities and music.

BIDS LET AGAIN FOR FDR HIGH SCHOOL

Bids were again let last week for the construction of the new Franklin D. Roosevelt Senior High School which will be located on a 40-acre site occupying the western portion of the Smith Ewing North tract east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in Greenbelt. Sealed bids will be publicly opened at the offices of the Board of Education on Dec. 19 at 4 p.m.

Two bids which were received during the first round of bidding in October were recently rejected by the Prince Georges County Board of Education. They were some 2 million dollars over the estimated construction budget of 7.5 million dollars. No functional changes were made in the revised plans, but there were miscellaneous revisions such as the kind of brick work to be used.

WHAT GOES ON

- Friday, Dec. 1, 7-10 p.m. Festival of Lights
- Sat., Dec. 2, 1-10 p.m. Festival of Lights
- Sunday, Dec. 3, 1-5 p.m. Festival of Lights
- 3:30 p.m. Paint Branch Pro-Musica Medieval Concert
- Mon., Dec. 4, 8 p.m. City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
- Tues., Dec. 5, 8 p.m. P.T.A. Meeting, Center School
- 7:30 p.m. P.T.A. Meeting, North End Holiday Program.
- Dec. 5, 6-3 p.m. Children's tree trimming workshop Library

GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Fairfax County Comments On Air Curtain Burning

The following letter on the experience of Fairfax county with air curtain destructor operations was received by the city in response to the city council's inquiry.

Dear Mr. Giese:

This is in response to your letter of November 14, 1972 regarding air curtain destructor operations in Fairfax County.

We recognize that controlled burning leaves much to be desired from a strictly environmental point of view. However, the Board of Supervisors also recognizes that the costs of land clearing is passed to the home buyer in the final analysis. In an attempt to keep the cost of home building down and still eliminate open burning, we looked at various methods of waste reduction and comparable costs. With everything considered, we selected the air curtain destructor method as the short-range solution to our particular problem here in Fairfax County. We point up that Fairfax County is heavily wooded and development is taking place rapidly.

In answer to your questions, our experience indicates that the trench burner method is efficient and quite acceptable when properly conducted. Most of our problems can be attributed to improper operation, i.e., over-loading the pit above the air curtain, not cutting material to proper pit length, charging the pit by bulldozing, operating when air generating equipment is not properly functioning, etc. One major problem is ash removal. We solved this problem by restricting the removal of ash. We now require the operator to backfill the pit when the ash buildup becomes a problem and construct a new pit. Again, in answer to your question, it is true that even when properly operated the air curtain destructor creates some smoke problems and does cause some pollution. There is always a puff of smoke created when the pit is charged with new material; however, it dissipates in a matter of seconds. Because of these problems described we have developed a strict set of guidelines for operating pit incinerators and we inspect each location daily.

We have no evidence of poison ivy, poison oak, or any other noxious weeds being transmitted through the air by burning operations.

We have issued approximately 150 controlled burning permits since July 1971. Currently, there are 12 pit incinerators in operation. We do not have a breakdown of complaints strictly related to controlled burning operations. We do find that the majority of complaints are not justified in that the complainant does not realize that the fire he sees is an approved method.

Daniel G. Helms, Supervisor
Air Pollution Control Section

'Busing' is Topic for Center School PTA

The December meeting of Center School PTA will be devoted to the issue of busing of public school children for the achievement of racial balance. The meeting will start at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5, in the auditorium of Center school and it is open to all interested residents of Greenbelt. Because of the importance of the subject, regular PTA business will not be transacted that evening.

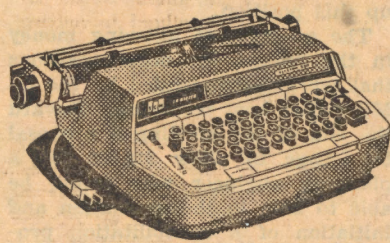
Two speakers have been invited to address the meeting: Mrs. Margaret Bondaruk, associated with the League of Women Voters and member of the McDonough committee which last year collected testimony related to busing in Prince Georges County; and George Crisan, Hyattsville attorney and Vice President of Bladensburg Junior High PTA.

The aim of the meeting will be to provide information about past experience with busing and racial relations, in communities which have instituted busing in recent years and also in Prince Georges County, and about the effect which busing has on children, schools and communities. A set of prepared questions in this direction will be presented to the speakers if time allows, questions from the audience may also be included. The meeting will not discuss legalities related to the lawsuit against the county which is now before the courts, nor will it deal with the specific busing program expected to be released in the coming week.

CHANUKAH SERVICES

Services at the Mishkan Torah in observance of Chanuka will be held on Friday, Dec. 1 at 8:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3 at 9:30 a.m. A party for children will start at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.

On Sundays a course on the Talmud will be led by Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg from 10:10 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. A 12-week Hebrew Reading course for beginners will be held on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. For more information call 474-4223.



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City Council Regulates Dumpster Placements

by Sandra Barnes

The city of Greenbelt was recently notified by residents living near the apartment units at 42-54 Crescent Rd. of the unsightly and unsanitary conditions arising from an overflowing trash receptacle, called a dumpster.

At its meeting on November 20, the city council enacted an ordinance regulating the placement of dumpsters which becomes effective November 30, 10 days after passage. This ordinance provides that a dumpster be placed on an all-weather surface such as asphalt or concrete, that this surface be larger than the container by two feet on all sides, that it be servicable from the public right-of-way and that it be behind the building's set-back line, not adjacent to the street and no closer than 30 feet from any public or residential property line.

The city is in the process of inspecting all 32-gallon and over trash containers and owners will be notified if they are in violation.

This particular apartment dumpster violates most of the points in the city's ordinance in that it does not sit on a permanent surface as directed above and is closer than 30 feet from residential property lines.

A reasonable time period will be afforded to the owners to make the necessary corrections. The owners, Cohn and Willchere, and the real estate management firm, Harvey and Marcus, have been informally notified by the city that they are in violation of the city's ordinance which applies to dumpsters and also to the city's clean lot ordinance. If convicted of violating the city's ordinances, owners could be fined not less than \$5 nor more than \$50 for each offense.

According to the assistant city manager, Dennis Piendak, it is difficult to make laws which require that trash overflowing from its receptacle be picked up immediately which is the problem in this case.

In addition, the county's health inspector on Monday visited the site and found numerous violations which have been in existence since the inspector first visited the apartments several months ago. The county has already given the managers time to comply with the building code and will have met with them on November 29 to determine when these violations will be rectified. The county has several avenues of conduct for failure to comply with their ordinances which include suspension and revocation of the apartment managers' ability to operate the units, stopping all rentals and forcing the occupants to move out, and bringing the owners into court.

Divorce Jewish Style

Mishkan Torah will present an original musical comedy, "Divorce Jewish Style, or Harry Getz Gets a Get" at the synagogue building, on Ridge and Westway Roads, at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 2, and Sunday, December 3, and on Saturday, December 9, and Sunday, December 10. For ticket information call 474-4223.

Recreation Review

The Youth Center schedule has been adjusted to accommodate the launching of the Greenbelt Festival of Lights this weekend. Changes are as follows: Friday Roller Skating - cancelled; all Open Gym and Lounge activities postponed from 1 p.m. Friday until 7 p.m. Sunday. Saturday Clay Modeling and Creative Carousel will be held at the Ridge Road Center at their regular hours.

Men's 'B' League Basketball

An 'Invitational' league, in round robin competition, with two divisions. Single elimination schedule will be determined from the top teams in each division. All games will be held on Sundays beginning January 7 between 1:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. in Greenbelt. Deadline entry date for teams is 9 a.m. Dec. 18.

Boys and Girls' Club Basketball Registration

Basketball participants, ages 9 to 17 years of age should sign up this Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Youth Center Locker Room from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The Locker Room is in the rear of the Youth Center off Braden Field. Also, there will be a Boys' and Girls' Club coaches meeting Saturday, Dec. 2, at 2 p.m. in the Youth Conference Room.

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St. Hugh's Antiques Fair

The third annual St. Hugh's Antiques Fair will open at noon on Friday, December 1, when Congressman Lawrence J. Hogan who is serving as honorary chairman officiates at the ribbon cutting ceremonies. The three-day event will run Friday, December 1, from noon until 10 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 2 12-10 p.m. Sun., Dec. 3, 12-6 p.m.

On view will be antiques and collectibles ranging from buttons to 18th century bureaus.

One of the extra touches to the Fair will be a real country store.

While the Antique Fair is planned and produced by the parishioners of St. Hugh's, it has the "special" touch of Hubert Bellman.

Heading the St. Hugh's effort for the Antiques Fair are the Planning Committee—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Skillman, Mr. and Mrs. George Pecor, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas White and Mr. and Mrs. Julius Chieppa. Monsignor Raymond J. Boland is pastor of St. Hugh's.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

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Worship Services

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Edward H. Birner, Pastor

Phone 345-5171



9:45 A.M. Sunday School 6:00 P.M. Training Union
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship 7:00 P.M. Evening Worship
7:30 P.M. Wednesday Midweek Service

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Crescent & Greenhill Rds. S. Jasper Morris, Jr., Pastor 474-4040

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(Mowatt Memorial) 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Md. Telephone 474-9410

Rev. Clifton Cunningham, Pastor - Tel. 474-8381

Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

(Nursery through Kindergarten at 11:00)

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SUN., DEC. 3

SAT., DEC. 9

SUN., DEC. 10

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INVITATION TO BID

The City of Greenbelt, Maryland invites proposals from professional consultants on its requirements for professional assistance in establishing and operating Greenbelt Cares, a Youth Service Bureau within the context of which the consultant shall promote training and an application of behaviour management skills and provide a delinquency reducing and preventing program.

Bids will be received at the City Offices, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland until 8:00 P.M., Monday, December 18, 1972 at which time they will be opened and read at a meeting of the City Council. Specifications and bid proposal requirements can be obtained at the City Offices, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, Tel: 474-8000.

Gudrun H. Mills, City Clerk

AUTO Insurance for All Drivers

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FOR SALE: Ladies 10-speed bicycle, 3 mo. old. \$70.00. 474-3718.

FOR SALE: Walnut coffee & end tables, drapes, carpet, odds & ends. Call 474-5222, between 5-8 p.m.

FOR SALE: Magnus Electric-chord organ, bench & music books, orig. \$39.95, sell \$25., exc. cond., great for Xmas. 474-0881.

FOR SALE: Pink Chaise Bedroom chair, orig. \$100. - sell for \$25. 474-0881.

FOR SALE: Bikes - 23", Girls AMF SKYLARK, Exc. Cond., hardly used - \$25. Bke 23", girl's Rollfast, exc. cond., with basket \$20 - 474-6443.

GARAGE SALE - Sat. Dec. 2, 10 a.m. till dark, low priced "almost every-kind-of-thing" for sale: HO trains, books, bike, stroller, small appliances, glassware, baby/adult clothes, and much more. Prices from 1c up. 6720 TERRA ALTA DR., LANHAM (2 blocks from Lamont Dr. off Good Luck Rd.)

SALE: Four snowtires on wheels, size 13 in., 474-4316.

EASEMENT SALE - 5C Laurel Hill Rd., Sat., Dec. 2, 10-5.

WANTED: Ride exchange to/from Bladensburg Sr. High, 6:30-9:45 p.m. 474-4316.

FLOOR SANDING & FINISHING (20 YEARS EXPERIENCE). CALL AFTER 5:30. 474-5673.

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SECRETARY needed December 26-30; also some Saturdays. Greenbelt Realty, 474-5700.

WOMAN WANTED for care of toddler in my home. Two days/wk. no housework. Call 474-4959, 5-9 p.m.

WANTED - Child care in our home, 3-5:30 p.m. M-F. One child 6 yrs. old, need trans. LHW, \$25. a week, 345-5443 (after 5:30).

HELP WANTED - Salesmen - TEXAS OIL COMPANY has opening in Greenbelt area. No experience necessary. Age not important. Good character a must. We train. Air mail A. S. Dickerson, Pres., Southwestern Petroleum Corp., Ft. Worth, Tex.

'68 VOLKSWAGEN, automatic, engine just overhauled. Inspection guaranteed. R&H excellent condition. \$1095 or make offer - 345-3643.

WAH INN RESTAURANT

GOURMET'S DELIGHT: On Labor Day a new Chinese restaurant "Wah Inn" opened in the old shopping center of Beltsville. On several occasions we have visited the restaurant for lunch and each time were thrilled anew by the quality of the food served. The Shrimp Egg Foo Yong, (\$1.75) served with tea, rice and dessert contained about twice as many shrimp as expected and was neither over, nor under cooked. The Shrimp with Bean Sprouts (\$1.95) though equally delicious, is much lighter so that lethargy is not so apt to set in. The bean sprouts were cooked to retain some of their crispness and thus resulted in a meal that bordered between a hot dinner and a refreshing salad. The Shrimp with Lobster Sauce is for the heavy diners. The shrimp were large and the sauce which is ladled onto white rice has a basic sea food flavor enhanced by a suggestion of spices. For those who like the Chinese atmosphere but need prompting to enjoy the Chinese food, hamburger, ham and chicken are available. One quarter of a chicken with french fries costs .85c.

The service is quick and efficient so that lunch can be squeezed into the one half hour period. Background Chinese music is heard from a tape recorder and is interspersed with soft Chinese voices of the employees efficiently preparing and serving truly exceptional lunches.

- Reprinted from USDA Station Waggin', Beltsville

11132 Baltimore Blvd. tel. 937-5390
CARRY OUT SERVICE

* * * * *
ATTENTION - Less-than-happy Apartment Dwellers and Thrifty Couples

You can move into a townhouse of your own where you can enjoy the area's best housing value

See this excellent one bedroom frame apartment facing wooded location With \$2251.00 cash you can move in. Monthly payment will cover all except elec. Immediate occupancy.

Two bedroom corner townhouses with fenced yards, improvements throughout, carpeting, nice appliances, desirable locations.

Three bedroom townhouses within walking distance of shopping center; nice surrounding areas, good improvements, nice appliances, etc.

Selling prices range from \$7000.00 to \$25,000.00 AND financing is available on portion of down payment. Monthly charge covers all except elec.

FOR INFORMATION CALL US NOW THE SALES OFFICE IS OPEN FROM 8:30 to 5:00 Monday thru Friday and 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Saturday and NOON to 5 PM Sundays.

GREENBELT HOMES, INC.

Hamilton Palce

Mary E. Dixon, Broker

474-4161

474-4244

Our Neighbors

Elaine Skolnik - 474-6060

Glad to hear that Alexa Lauber, age 8, is back in school after an appendectomy.

It's a boy for Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Wolf, 8150 Lakecrest. Howard Philip was born November 13 and weighed in at 9 lbs. 1 oz. He is the Wolf's first child.

Airman Patrick F. Egan Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick F. Egan of 103 Julian Court, has been assigned to Keesler AFB, Miss., for specialized training in the armament systems field, after completing basic training. Airman Egan is a 1970 graduate of Parkdale Senior High School and attended the University of Maryland.

Dr. Ronald J. Seibel of Springhill Lake has been named vice-president for the 12-state Northeast region of the American Association of Teacher Educators in Agriculture. His election came at the association's regional meeting held recently at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. As one of four vice-presidents, he will serve a two-year term on the executive committee of the 350-member national organization.

Marine Lance Corporal Michael Martohe, son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Martohe, 15-D Ridge, was promoted to his present rank while serving at the Marine Corps Air Station in Jacksonville, N.Car.

KASH REALTOR

345-2151

JUST "RODIN" TO TOWN and don't know where to buy? Take a look at this very fine newly painted 3 BR home-attached garage. Near the center-just the thing for you to MOVE UP to if you are crowded. Take over pmts. of approx. \$150/mo. after dwn. pmt. \$21,500.

NO "STONEWALL" about this home Jackson, just a very nice group of trees. Get this 2 BR END home with lge. closets. Very private yard. Washer & A/C. Take over pmts of \$103.25/mo after dwn. pmt. \$13,500.

BABYLON about hanging gardens? Were talking about this beautiful 2 BR masonry home that is your dream home. Move in and take over pmts. \$122.50/mo. Paneled den, enclosed porch, washer, dryer, remodeled kit. and bath. NEW W/W carp. Newly painted. Near center. \$21,900.

DON'T BE OBLISQUE Move now into this 2 BR home with lge. addition and 1 1/2 baths. Equipped with washer, 2 A/C's and W/W carpeting. Take over pmts. of \$109/mo. after dwn. pmt. \$16,000.

TAJ MAHAL to the left after you come to our office above the post office to seize this golden opportunity to buy this 2 BR masonry home near the center. Not to "AGRA"vate you by telling of al lof the benefits you receive. Call 345-2151 about how you can take over pmts of \$106/mo. \$18,250.

"I WON'T BET JIM A" cent that this home will last too much longer on the market at this give a way price. Remodeled kit. and bath. Take over pmts. of \$104/mo. after dwn. pmt. \$12,400.

KASH Realtor HOMES FOR SALE

Call 345-2151 Anytime
MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE

MONUMENTAL OPEN HOUSE AT 38-L RIDGE RD Sunday, Nov. 19th from 1 P.M. until 5:30 P.M. Come home, Mr. President, and see the home you would be proud to own! This is a rare opportunity to see a fine large home with a 2 story addition. Imagine, a 13 x 24 living room. 10 x 15 din. rm. New kit. with wall oven, table top range and fruit-wood cabinets. Draperies. Plush carpeting and spotless!! Come and see for yourself. Possession 30-45 days. Take over pmts. of \$124.25/mo. after dwn. pmt. \$19,750.

"GRANTED" you can look around all over but never will you find a home you can **MOVE UP TO IN GREENBELT.** You'll "marble" at the beautiful lot with towering oaks. Look at this, 3 BR free standing home with screened porch and 2 car carport plus garage. For appliances, you get, double eye level oven, F/F ref., dishwasher, washer, dryer, freezer, and 4 A/C's. Take over pmts. of \$126.75/mo. after dwn. pmt. \$25,900.

"TOMB" it may concern: Here is a very fine 2 BR home with washer, 2 A/C's and a cozy nook that can be used as a bar or as a chatting corner. Take over pmts of \$100/mo. after dwn. pmt. that includes all utilities except elect. and phone. Priced to move \$11,800.

GET AN "EIFFEL" of this 4 BR 2 bath home with den and fireplace. Located on 1/2 acre lot with a 2 car garage with an apartment overhead that can be used for Mom or Dad or for just plain income. Full basement with rec. room and many appliances that include 3 refs, 3 ranges, dishwasher, disp., washer, dryer and an A/C. Take over pmts of \$186/mo. after dwn. pmt. or buy on conventional terms at \$42,000.

PYRAMID your money by buying this 2 BR home at a low, low price! Note you get washer, dryer, and window A/C. Take over pmts. of \$102/mo. that includes all utilities except elect. and phone. \$10,000.

DO YOU "A'SPIRE" to get a very fine 4BR brick home with remodeled kit. near Greenbelt. This should be the one for you! Large liv. Rm. 12x19 din. rm., 7 by 19 kit plus lots of storage. Large lot with trees near parkland. \$35,500.

A "PISA" 'F the action can be yours and you do not have to be a "tower" of strength either if you will just lean towards your telephone and call **Kash Realtor** 345-2151 anytime day or night about this 3 BR home with 2 dr. ref., washer, and A/C. Fenced, and nice trees all around. Take over pmts. of \$112.50/mo. \$13,500.

ME SPHINX I cannot keep quiet any longer about this very fine 3 BR. end brick home with large addition that has a very fine Mt. Vernon inspired interior. **MOVE UP** today before someone else takes this very elegant home. Call for details on how you make this home your own.

The "statue" of limitations never runs out when you buy a home. It is a plan of moving ahead just as **Kash Realtor** has over the past 7 years. Observe we are now No. ONE on pg. 819 in the yellow pages for Prince Georges County. You can be #1 too if you will call **Kash** on 345-2151 anytime day or night. Ask for your favorite agent.

KASH Realtor

Greenbelt Shopping Center
(Above Post Office)

345-2151

Veterans Cut-Rate Liquors

11620 Baltimore Blvd. (Route 1)

Beltsville, Md.

HOLIDAY SAVINGS

TEACHER'S SCOTCH \$12.99 1/2 gal.

Assorted Cordials \$2.99 1/5th
(3 for \$8.75)

Trigo Puerto Rican Rum \$7.99 1/2 gal.

Fruit Flavored Brandies \$2.99 1/5th
(3 for \$8.75)

SMIRNOFF VODKA \$8.99 1/2 gal.

BOURBON SUPREME \$8.79 1/2 gal.

937-1110

Check us for Low Low Case Prices

937-3022

CITY COUNCIL, from pg. 1 included in a letter to the county council from the Prince Georges County Health Officer, and to specifications established by the city's Resolution No 226.)

Councilwoman Rhea Cohen objected to this position. She felt that a number of circumstances had changed since passage of the city's resolution. Among other points she argued that Greenbriar's new treatment plant proposal doesn't provide for meeting state standards, that it doesn't provide for the testing for viruses, that it is a potential health hazard, that it is not intended for commercial-industrial plants as approved by county executive Gullett, and that, with enactment of the new federal revenue sharing act, there is no need to rush into the development of this property for revenue purposes. She then moved to rescind city council Resolution No. 229, but her motion died for lack of a second. Mayor Richard Pilski then instructed Giese to send the letter he had recommended.

Agricultural Center

In other actions related to county matters, council decided to have the manager send a letter to the Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission, requesting that the City of Greenbelt be advised of any proposals regarding use or development of the Agricultural Research Center and be invited to any meeting relating to this matter.

Council also recommended that the entire subject of the development of the Agricultural Research Center be referred to the Advisory Planning Board for study and recommendations and that PRAB also be advised of this action in case that group had any inputs they wished to make.

At the urging of councilwoman Cohen, council also decided to seek more information before acting on a notification by county councilman White of applications being made by the Agricultural Research Center for point of discharge permits for two treatment plants, presently operating, which are to be expanded in capacity to handle future expansion. Council wanted to know the nature of this "future expansion."

On a motion by councilman Gil Weidenfeld, with a second by councilman Charles Schwan, council voted to endorse County Bill 25, the Tax Differential Bill, and to accept the two changes proposed by the county executive to the Municipal League provided there will be concurrence by the bills authors. CB-205 is essentially the same bill as had previously been vetoed by the county executive but deleting the language he had objected to. Council was advised by manager Giese

that Gullett had informed the Municipal League that he would not veto this measure if two deletions were made: the specific listing of services for which municipalities would be reimbursed from county property taxes, and putting off the date for rebate of taxes to 1974.

SHL Negotiations

Also on a motion by councilman Gil Weidenfeld, council passed the first reading of an ordinance to make additional appropriations in the capital improvement fund for \$91,000, bringing the total appropriations for this fund to \$1,040,400. This matter was in preparation for negotiations presently taking place between the City and the owners of Springhill Lake for purchase of the golf course property. Giese briefly reported on the state of the negotiations, pointing out that additional studies will be made on soil conditions, and that the right of way for the circumference road is not to be included in the land to be purchased. He also mentioned that the property was not flooded during the last flood, which was of the once in a hundred years type. Mayor Pilski stated that this was a top priority of council and hoped that the manager would have negotiations completed by the first of the year.

What appeared to be a rhubarb in the making, with the introduction of a proposal by councilwoman Cohen for public financial disclosure, quickly died out when it appeared that present safeguards were probably adequate. Cohen in introducing the measure stated that there had been two previous mayors sitting on council at a time when the city had a file on closed circuit T.V. and that it has been revealed that these men have interests in a closed circuit T.V. company. Manager Giese pointed out that the only business coming before council was in 1968 or 1969 when the city received an unsolicited proposal from a Montgomery county closed T.V. firm and that this matter was referred to the county. Mayor Pilski stated that the city files have always been open, and that, in the instance cited, there has never been any question of either conflict of interest or public disclosure violation. Council did agree to have the manager bring together suggestions for revisions in the code that might be an improvement.

In other matters, council voted to contact the history department of the University of Maryland to see if historical research on Greenbelt might be done; agreed to have the manager prepare an ordinance amending the animal control ordinance to exempt cats from the restraint section; to place the Largo Arena on the agenda for the next meeting; requested the manager to

American Legion Bake Sale

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 136 will sponsor a bake sale on Saturday, December 2 at 10 a.m. in the Greenbelt Shopping Center by Tanners. The proceeds will benefit the community service Christmast programs, which provides presents for children. Mrs. Anna M. Link, 474-6954, is chairing the event.

fix a catch basin at the end of Forest Way and, despite objections of the manager, asked him to make recommendations on paving four feet of private property to expand the parking space in that area.

Council also appointed Benjamin Rosenzweig and Al Herling for additional terms on the Employee Relations Advisory Board; and, in reference to a request from Barry Katzen, Property Manager for Charles and William Properties, for council approval for an 18 foot extension to the front of the Suburban Trust Company building, directed the manager to notify Katzen that the city will only sit down for negotiations on this matter with the owner of the property.

Judy in Dreamland Drink & Wet Doll	3.44
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Inflatable Elephant Chair	1.39
---------------------------	------

Stuffed Animals	1.17 to 4.37
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Mobile Patrol Unit Set	2.33
------------------------	------

Western Stage Coach Set	2.33
-------------------------	------

50 Light Italian Style Mini-Lite Set	2.44
-----------------------------------------	------

25 Light Outdoor Light Set	3.99
----------------------------	------

15 Light Scotch Pine Tree Light Set	2.66
----------------------------------------	------

9 ft. Electric Twinkling Bell Set w/Garland	4.77
------------------------------------------------	------

Central Charge-BankAmericard	
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Ben Franklin

Greenbelt Shopping Center
Open 9-9 Mon.-Sat.

St. Hugh's Parish Hall

Crescent Rd.

St. Hugh's Antiques Fair

December 1, 2, 3, 1972

Friday & Saturday - Noon to 10 p.m.

Sunday - Noon to 6 p.m.

Admission - \$1.50 with this ad \$1.25

INVEST YOUR MONEY IN GREENBELT

- Help Greenbelt People
- Maintain Greenbelt Property Values
- Earn Good Dividends Too!

CURRENT DIVIDENDS

5 1/2%
Regular Savings

6%
Savings Certificates

UNICEF

Greeting Cards and Calendars

Now On Sale

Twin Pines Savings & Loan Assn.

Monday thru Friday 9 to 8
GREENBELT SHOPPING CENTER

Saturday 9 to 2
474-6900

your

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS C★A★L★E★N★D★A★R

3 weeks of December activities for the family
CRAFTS SHOW & SALE

December 1, 7-10 pm; Dec. 2, 1-10 pm; Dec. 3, 1-5 pm
Hand-crafted, inexpensive items & greenery by 50 craftspeople

CHILDREN'S SALE

December 2, 1-8 pm; Dec. 3, 1-5 pm
Music, crafts, inexpensive items for children's gift-giving needs

MEDIEVAL CONCERT

Paint Branch Pro Musica & Lighting of the Hanukkah Candles
December 3 at 3:30 pm

All at the Youth Center ● Greenbelt Rec. Dept.
A HAPPENING

Dec. 9, 1 pm at the Greenbelt Town Center
Childrens' gathering to decorate the Center and parade with pinatas to the Greenbelt Center School for party & a play

A ONE-ACT PLAY:

"The Mouse Who Was Stirring"

Dec. 8, 7:30 pm; Dec. 9, 2 pm Greenbelt Center School Auditorium; Free
A CRAFT DO-IN

Dec. 10, 2-5 pm Youth Center

Craftsmen engage families in making festive crafts

TREE-LIGHTING & CAROLING

Dec. 16, 6:30 pm at the evergreen between bank & city bldg;
Caroling immediately following

CHURCH CHORAL CONCERT

Dec. 17, 7:30 pm at Community Church, Crescent & Hillside

SANTA COMES TO TOWN

Dec. 22, 2-5 pm at Youth Center

4 pm Puppet Show

Santa, Clowns, Gingerbread House and Puppets

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5%

**CURRENT
DIVIDEND**

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at the Credit Union

Each Member Account Insured to \$20,000 By Administrator
National Credit Union Administration

IT'S WHERE YOU BELONG
**GREENBELT
FEDERAL**

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121 Centerway (Shopping Center)
Greenbelt, Md. 20770 474-5858

Greenbelt Carry-out

Sat., Dec. 2 - Royal Steak Sub 55c

LG. DRESSED PIZZA your choice \$1.49

SPECIALS — 4 P.M. TO CLOSING

Mon., Dec. 4 - Royal Steak Sub 55c

Tues., Dec. 5 - Meatball Sub 55c

Wed., Dec. 6 - Super Cheese Pizza 1.69

Thurs., Dec. 7 - Introducing Meatball Queen 35c

Delicious Soft Serve Ice Cream - Sat. only - 5c

107 CENTERWAY

474-4998

Original Goals

1. To serve as a nonprofit enterprise.
2. To remain nonpartisan in politics.
3. To remain neutral in religious matters.
4. To print news accurately and regularly.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 36, Number 2

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, November 30, 1972

Original Goals

5. To make its pages an open forum for civic affairs.
6. To develop a staff of volunteer writers.
7. To create a "Good Neighbor" spirit, promote friendship, advance the common good, and develop a "Greenbelt philosophy" of life. - November 24, 1937

News Review Marks 35th Anniversary

As We See Our Role

A SAMPLING FROM THE EDITORIAL PAGE

Introducing Ourselves

Beginning with this issue, the Greenbelt News Review will acquire several hundred new readers, as distribution of the paper starts at the new University Square apartments. It is to these new readers that we address ourselves here.

We do not know whether you realized, when you chose to live here in Greenbelt, that there was something special about this town. Oh, don't ask us to define it - it's a mutual identity, a cooperative spirit, an elusive elan, and it floats around, adding zing to council meetings, creating and sustaining countless projects and associations (as well as those tempests-in-a-teapot for which Greenbelt is known), giving us all a feeling of sharing the life of a community, to which we belong.

Whether you bargained for all this when you came, or were merely weighing commuting times against rents and access to schools, we welcome you now as new residents of our town. Perhaps you have already discovered our tranquil lake with its parkland setting, and other features unique to this city. We now invite you to discover something no less characteristic - The Greenbelt News Review.

For the past 30 years, our paper has been reporting facts and events, and serving as both sounding board and bulletin board to the Greenbelt community. Run by a crew of volunteers, it is proud of not having missed an issue. It will be your weekly guide to the community and to what is happening in it.

Here is your first copy. Enjoy it.

(October 26, 1967)

A Self Appraisal

We have heard some criticism recently that the News Review has been devoting an undue proportion of its columns to the affairs of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. We appreciate comments of this nature, if for no other reason than that they provide us with evidence that people are reading the newspaper. But, more significantly, they make us sit back and reflect on the role of a community newspaper and to write editorials like this which attempt to explain our position.

The News Review, as a non-profit, cooperative newspaper, is dependent on volunteer help in reporting the news. By volunteer, we not only mean the volunteer services of our staff reporters, but also the volunteer efforts of non-staff persons who as members of various civic organizations send us press releases and in other ways communicate to us the happenings of the community.

Historically, we have felt an obligation to cover on a regular basis through our own staff reporters the activities of two major organizations in the city - Greenbelt city council (and city government) and Greenbelt Homes, Inc.

The necessity and desirability of detailed reporting of city council and government activities are self-evident. As for GHI, up until the late 1950's, the residents of GHI comprised over 80 percent of the city's population. Even though this proportion is now down to about one-third, we still feel an obligation to report GHI activities in detail.

The affairs of this housing cooperative are of special interest to its 1,600 families because it is a self-governing organization with many elements of sovereignty that are not too dissimilar from those of city council. This aspect of GHI, as exemplified by its bi-weekly board meetings and annual elections, which require an informed membership, is in unique contrast to what is found, say, in the operation of apartment complexes. In our judgment, board and membership actions of GHI warrant regular staff coverage.

If there is an imbalance in coverage, the answer, of course, is not to cut down GHI coverage, but to improve the coverage of news from other sections of town. To do so will require the co-operation of residents of the various areas, because there are few focal centers of information to which staff reporters can turn. In effect, we are asking for help, for volunteers in various sections to become special correspondents. No experience is needed for such volunteer work. Remember, this is your community newspaper. We gather every Tuesday evening, 8 to 10 p.m., at 15 Parkway (basement). Come down and get acquainted.

(June 25, 1970)

Our Policy On Letters

We have said this many times before, but perhaps it will not hurt to say it again.

Letters to the Editor represent only the personal views of the person who signs them. Publication by the News Review of these letters indicates neither approval nor disapproval of the views expressed.

The News Review, of course, when faced with lengthy letters and limited space, will sometimes try to induce the author to accept some cutting. Otherwise, we have attempted to follow the principle that one of the most valuable services performed by your community newspaper is to provide a forum through which any person can express his unrestricted views.

It sometimes happens that in controversial issues most of the letters come from one side. Readers have complained to us that in such situations by printing all of them we have in effect endorsed the side that has written most of the letters.

We do not see how we can do otherwise. All we ask is understanding from our readers that the editorial policy and position of the News Review is expressed through its editorials and not through the Letters to the Editor Department.

(March 14, 1968)

This special edition of the News Review stresses the last five years of publication. In November, 1967, a 30th anniversary issue was published, copies of which are still available.

Staff members Dorothy Sucher, Mary Lou Williamson, Judy Goldstein, Sandra Barnes, Elaine Skolnik, and Al Skolnik prepared this issue.

Greenbelt Grab-bag

by Punchin' Judy

Do you remember when . . .

Inflation meant paying 10c for a nickel ice cream cone like the kind that now costs a quarter?

The "new look" came in and you had to replace all your short dresses with long ones?

You cried on the occasion of your son's first haircut because you would never see him with long hair again?

The mini look came in and you had to replace all your long dresses with short ones?

You walked two miles to save 5c bus fare?

Greenbelt had a drugstore with a soda fountain in the Center?

You thought of third graders as big guys?

The fireworks were at Braden field?

The fireworks were in the City Council?

The City Council met above the Post Office?

The Post Office was next to the Bank?

You wished the hot weather would hurry up and get there?

Your Mom gave you a dime to go to the movies and you saw two features, the news, a cartoon, the serial and selected short subjects?

You saw those same features on the late show last week?

You had a picnic at Greenbelt Lake? Well, some things don't go out of fashion, so do it again and have a happy day. (August 6, 1970)

First Issue of Newspaper Appeared Nov. 24, 1937

Six weeks after the first residents of Greenbelt unpacked their household belongings in 1937, a newspaper was issued. Recognizing the immediate need for a news medium, the first families formed on November 11, 1937, a Journalistic Club to issue a weekly paper, the "Greenbelt Co-operator."

The policies of the paper, as formulated at the meeting were: to serve as a nonprofit enterprise, to remain nonpartisan in politics, to remain neutral in religious matters, to print the news accurately and regularly, to make its pages an open forum for civic affairs, to develop a staff of volunteer writers, and to create a "good neighbor" spirit, promote friendship, advance the common good, and develop a "Greenbelt philosophy of life."

These principles still guide the motives and actions of the present Greenbelt News Review, the direct descendant of the Greenbelt Co-operator. The name was changed in September, 1954, in order to clarify the independent status of the paper and prevent its being confused with numerous other co-op organizations in Greenbelt. The Journalistic Club lasted until July, 1940, when it was converted into the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, which has continued the sponsorship of the paper ever since. An incorporation charter for the Association was granted in September, 1941, by the District of Columbia.

The First Issue

The first issue of the Co-operator, appearing on November 24, 1937, was a neatly mimeographed paper containing sixteen letter-sized pages of local news and editorial content.

The newspaper has appeared regularly every week since then for thirty-five years.

The paper was prepared at the homes of various staff members until January, 1938, when the Federal Government (which owned Greenbelt at that time) made space

available at the Center, free of cost, and also loaned much-needed furniture, typewriters and office equipment. To meet the costs of paper, ink, and stencils a charge of five cents per copy was made beginning with the issue of January 5, 1938. Distribution was turned over to the Boy Scout troop, which was allowed to retain two cents for each paper sold.

Free Delivery

An important development in the history of the newspaper was the decision to deliver the Co-operator free of charge to every home in town, beginning with the issue of September 7, 1939. The additional cost of local distribution was small, and this radical change of policy provided larger circulation figures, which could be used as evidence of the value of advertising in the Co-operator, once its distribution had become community wide. The town government engaged more and more space for the publication of pending ordinances, budgets and the like.

The policy of free distribution remained unchanged until July, 1953, when the paper was forced by financial straits to go to a subscription basis - \$3 a year. The response was fairly encouraging, but the added cost of maintaining subscription records convinced the governing body that the additional income was not worth the additional workload. In January, 1955, the paper returned to city-wide circulation.

Financial difficulties continued to plague the newspaper, and appeals were made to the businesses and organizations in town for funds. Finally, in April, 1959, the News Review resorted to a house-to-house community-wide drive for funds. Organized by the drive chairman Elaine Skolnik, who was aided by 125 volunteer court collectors, the drive netted over \$1,500. It proved such an unqualified success that it was renewed again the following year.

The yield from these drives was sufficient to meet the needs and no drives had been conducted until 1966 when a fund drive was launched by the Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee to help the paper defend itself against libel charges.

Offices of the Paper

The News Review has had several homes since its inception. From its original second-floor quarters in the commercial center the paper moved its offices four times before finally coming to rest in the present basement office at 15 Parkway. With the withdrawal of the Federal Government from town, Greenbelt Homes, Inc. through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Greenbelt Development Corporation) continued the federal policy of providing free office space,

(Cont. on page 2A)

Resolution Number 246

Congratulating "The Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc." Better Known As The "News Review" On Their Thirty-Fifth Anniversary

WHEREAS, the GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW (previously named The Co-operator) will observe its Thirty-Fifth Anniversary of its publication during the month of November, 1972; and

WHEREAS, this local newspaper has played an important role in disseminating municipal news and actions of the City Council of Greenbelt to the citizens of this community; and

WHEREAS, during the past thirty-five years the GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW has, indeed, served the people of Greenbelt in a most faithful and inspiring manner in bringing to them news of the city, its governing body, and its citizens; and by bringing to Greenbelt citizens news of general interest and concern and by giving those citizens an opportunity to express their thoughts on issues before the community; and

WHEREAS, this THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of the continued publication of the GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW is an appropriate occasion for the citizens of this community to express their appreciation and thanks to the editor and staff, both present or past, of the NEWS REVIEW for their outstanding service and many hours of volunteer work; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland that the GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW be recognized on the occasion of its THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY, and that the Council express to the NEWS REVIEW its appreciation and gratitude in behalf of the citizens of Greenbelt and thank the editors, reporters, business managers, and all of the staff, both present and past, who have devoted so much of their time to the GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council, in behalf of the community extend to the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Association, Inc., its sincerest congratulations on the Thirty-fifth Anniversary of the publication of the GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, at its Regular Meeting, November 6, 1972.

Richard R. Pilski, Mayor

News Review Editors since 1962

Virginia Beauchamp	June 1962 - December 1962
Russell S. Greenbaum	January 1963 - June 1963
Dorothy Sucher	July 1963 - September 1963
Mary Lou Williamson	February 1964 - October 1964
Dorothy Sucher	November 1964 - December 1965
Mary Lou Williamson	January 1966 - February 1967
Mary Smith Granofsky	March 1967 - October 1972
Mary Lou Williamson	November 1972 -

A Word From the President

Looking back over the 35-year history of the *News Review*, we are struck by the large number of crises that the paper had to surmount in order to survive. In some phases of our history, financial problems dominated, in other stages, personnel shortages, and in still others, a libel suit.

It is a natural tendency to recall or dwell upon the most recent crisis and this is what the 35th anniversary issue does. But this is telling only half the story. For the paper, during its 35-year history is and was the product of dedicated volunteers numbering in the hundreds. Many of these persons worked on the newspaper long before the memory of any present staff members so that we are handicapped in singling out individuals for proper tribute. Nevertheless, the debt owed by the present generation to these individuals, especially the 27 persons who occupied the editor's chair, cannot be exaggerated.

Our acquaintance with the paper goes back far enough, however, to single out three individuals — Russell S. Greenbaum, Isadore J. Parker, and Harry M. Zubkoff — who almost single-handedly saw the newspaper through the difficult 1950's. This was a time of rising printing costs and dwindling advertising volume, combined with a tapering off of volunteer workers as the challenge of building a new community wore off.

Time and time again, these three persons were prevailed upon to take the editorship for "just one more month." The classic story is told of how Russ Greenbaum once arrived late at a board meeting. As he came in, everybody stood up and cheered and the phonograph started to play "Hail to the Chief," thus notifying him of his new responsibility.

And it was a responsibility. For upon the editor's shoulder fell the burden of getting out a paper each week, never knowing from week to week how many staff members would show up. Iz Parker (a professional cartoonist) had an advantage — whenever there was no copy, he just struck off another cartoon.

But a special note of appreciation must be paid to Harry Zubkoff. He was the mentor and guiding light to all of us. All that many of us ever learned about newspaper work can be attributed to the knowledge imparted by Harry. His commitment to freedom of the press and speech was complete and he never flinched from battling with those who would try to harass and intimidate the newspaper. And although he no longer was living in Greenbelt, when the newspaper's existence was challenged by a libel suit in the mid-1960's, he personally and successfully launched a fund drive among friends and former Greenbelters to help the paper meet legal expenses.

It is thus eminently fitting on this 35th anniversary that we publicly salute the many individuals who have helped to make the *News Review* the vital community service that it is.

Alfred M. Skolnik
President
Greenbelt News Review

Congratulations News Review

from

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Congratulates the News Review

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Crime in Greenbelt

Greenbelt's low crime rate is one of the priceless assets of our community. However, even in Greenbelt, crimes occur; and sometimes they have their lighter side — as can be seen from the following items that appeared in recent years in the Police Blotter.

A noisy party led to the arrest of 36 persons, 15 of them juveniles, last Saturday night, July 24. A 22-year-old resident was giving a party while his mother was out of town.

Beer was served, and since many of the guests were minors, the police announced that everyone was under arrest. A Mack Sennett chase reportedly ensued, with a number of the partygoers jumping off the second-story balcony. No one was injured, and police waiting below gathered them up, stowing them in a county paddy wagon which had been borrowed for the occasion.

Less athletic guests sought hiding places inside the apartment. Police flushed several out of the closets and kitchen cabinets, pulled others out from under the bed and from the space between the mattress and the springs, and discovered one cool chap in the refrigerator. His whereabouts were betrayed by the fact that he had left the door open a crack.

Last to be discovered were some boys who had made a hole in the ceiling, climbed up into the attic crawl space, and covered the hole with insulation. (July 29, 1965)

A woman at Springhill Lake reported that her ex-boy friend forcibly entered her apartment, went

HISTORY from pg. 1A

with the paper reimbursing the corporation for out-of-pocket expenses.

The entire staff consists of volunteer workers, most of whom have joined the paper as their contribution to their community's activities. Since March, 1957, nominal payments have been authorized to the editorial staff and to columnists—when finances permit, of course. There have been 38 changes in editorship during the paper's 35 years, attesting to the difficulty of this job; the position is at present held by Mary Lou Williamson and there are 25 staff members.

At present over 4,800 free copies of the *News Review* are distributed weekly to homes in Greenbelt, including Springhill Lake and University Square Apts.

to a closet and took a crepe dress he had given her three years previously. He then left.

June 19, 1969

At about 3 a.m. Tuesday morning, May 20, a bullet from a rifle was discharged in a Hillside Rd. home. The bullet penetrated the wall of the adjacent home, went through a couch, a pillow, a 20" T.V., hit a wall and landed on the second floor stairway. No charges were filed as the discharge was apparently accidental. The owner of the rifle also owns several other firearms. The case is still being investigated.

A white male in his 20's stole some ladies undergarments from a clothesline on Laurel Hill around 5 a.m. one morning. He was seen, accosted, but was able to flee away on foot.

May 22, 1967

On August 15, beginning at 3:30 in the afternoon, three housewives, one on Ridge Road and two on Plateau Place, invited into their homes a white Silver Spring male, 27-years-old, who told them he represented the fashion section of *Look* magazine. He further stated he was looking for models and that they would receive \$50 if their pictures were published in the magazine.

At the first house he asked for a picture of the lady. When she didn't have one, he asked for her measurements. When she said she didn't know them, he asked her to get one of her dresses. As she started to comply, he began to follow her up the stairs. At this point she asked him to leave and he did so.

At the second house he asked for a picture, measurements, and then a tape measure. He was then asked to leave, which he did.

At the third house, he followed the same routine, then asked to use the bathroom. From the bathroom window, he spotted a police car, which the first two ladies had summoned, and attempted to escape through the kitchen window. At this point the third lady called the police. He was apprehended near 42 court Ridge and charged with three counts of soliciting without a license.

Aug. 28, 1969

Dirty Pool. The police received a complaint on May 20 from a Greenbelt man who had become acquainted with three men over a pool table one evening and invited them to his home to play *Skil* Pool. The quartet arrived at 2 a.m., put a 6-pack of beer in the refrigerator, and took out the cues. Every so often, one of the guests would absent himself from the game on one pretext or another—a circumstance the host remembered later. The visitors left, after an hour, but apparently not alone; the police are now looking for a television set, an electric razor, two radios, and three pool players.

June 28, 1969

Congratulations to the
Greenbelt News Review on 35 Years
of Service to the Community
1937 — 1972
**Greenbelt Federal
Credit Union**
CELEBRATES ITS 35th ANNIVERSARY
DECEMBER, 1972

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

To the Greenbelt News Review for
Thirty-Five Years of Service in Keeping
Greenbelters Informed

SPRINGHILL

LAKE

APARTMENTS

Light Entertainment

FROM OUR COLUMNISTS

Speaking Sternly Point of View

by David Stern

In accordance with its annual custom, Speaking Sternly has predicted the top stories of 1970. Since, naturally enough there is less than complete agreement as to the actual occurrence of any or all of these events, the following choices are not necessarily listed to inform the reader but merely to give the writer and opportunity to say "I told you so!"

January: Cornerstone laid for public comfort station at lake park. Just as Mayor intones, "On this spot there will rise, not just a mere Johnny, but a full-size John" a voice from the rear yells, "Where do I go now?"

February: Prince Georges becomes the first county in the U.S. to replace the haphazard actions of a zoning board with the impersonal precision of a zoning lottery. General Hershey, as guest of honor, dips his hand in the bowl and draws the first lot which, to no one's surprise, rezones Braden field for heavy industrial use.

March: New library opens. In accordance with old GHI tradition, main entrance is in rear, front one being for show only.

April: State Roads Commission notifies council that due to an error in drawing up the original map, the municipal building is actually located across the public right of way.

In reply, council reminds SRC that the same map shows the Beltway smack across Greenbelt Lake. SRC cables council to forget about the whole thing.

May: FBI uncovers gambling ring in Goddard, ending widespread betting on the daily number of smashups at the Glenn Dale - Southway intersection. A traffic light is firmly budgeted for that location for late 1973, with possible delays of no more than three years, four at the most.

June: Greenbelt Historical Society uncovers new evidence that Eleanor Roosevelt never stood on or even under the tree on Crescent Rd. around which her monument was built. The correct tree is found standing next to the rear parking lot of the firehouse, by the right of way of Crescent Rd. according to the original mapping.

July: School buses tumble down into Beltway Plaza as county issues absolutely last order to fix that #%%&!*>+* slope.

August: New Lutheran Church opens on Greenbelt Road. Main access to building is from small door in the rear (front doors termed "just decorative").

September: Labor Day Festival features "Fight for Peace" town meeting, which turns into general free-for-all. Moratorium is decreed on all public displays of nonviolence.

October: Sit-in is staged by students of the Greenbelt Co-op Nursery School, whose non-negotiable demands include coffee, cigarettes, and natural hair styles on campus, courses in child culture and baby talk, a seat on the board and unconditional amnesty to all who wet their pants during school hours. Negotiations collapse and the insurrection is ended by a flying wedge of helping mothers, braving a rain of building blocks and play-doh.

November: Widespread indignation as JCC opens new building with main entrance in front.

December: Landslide at Beltway Plaza narrowly misses Santa, buries three reindeer.

Chairman Mao warns his citizens about impending epidemic of American flu, spread by a particularly virulent new virus first isolated in Greenbelt early in the year.

Due to simultaneous widening of the Beltway and the Parkway, State Roads Commission announces that Greenbelt will have to go. Sorry about that readers - enjoy your 1970 while it lasts!

(January 1, 1970)

by Dorothy Sucher

A hopeful seeker after the grass roots sometimes gets lost in a patch of crab-grass. SCENE: a meeting of the local Populist Party club.

"Psst!" an acquaintance greeted me, as I entered the meeting early. "Are you infiltrating?"

A gavel thundered before I could reply, and I took a seat. A tense silence settled over the room.

A gentleman at the speakers' table rose. "Folks, in the absence of our beloved president I'd like to say that we're all here tonight to elect the officers who will guide the destinies of our club through the coming year. So I say to you, let's not fool around. I cede the chair to the hardworking and popular chairman of the nominating committee."

"Right!" cried that gentleman, unfolding a sheet of paper as he rose. "Here are the names of the candidates your nominating committee has selected for the coming year." He read them off. "Okay, let's vote. First, for president. All in favor of . . ."

Pandemonium broke loose. Several members of the audience jumped out of their chairs, waving their arms and shouting.

"Point of order! Mr. Chairman!"

"Mr. Chairman, I protest!"

"Point of information! Point of information!"

The chairman gavelled them into silence. "You're out of order. As I was saying, all those in favor of . . ."

"Point of order! A point of order always takes precedence."

"So does a point of information. Point of information! Point of information!"

The chairman was exasperated. "Well, make up your minds. What do you want, a point of order or a point of information?"

"Either!"

"Both!"

The chairman turned to the parliamentarian. "Does a point of order take precedence over a point of information, or is it the other way around?"

The parliamentarian put on his glasses thoughtfully and said, "I don't know?"

"What do we do now?" muttered the chairman.

"Put it to a vote!" cried several voices.

"Okay, if you want to be childish," said the chairman. "But bear in mind that we're supposed to be conducting an election. All those in favor of a point of order taking precedence over a point of information, say 'aye!'"

"Aye!"

"Opposed?"

"No!"

"Now, all those in favor of it the other way around."

"Aye!"

"No!"

"Carried," said the chairman, and slammed down his gavel. "Now. For the office of president, all those in favor of . . ."

"Mr. Chairman, I demand to make a statement." The man who had leaped to his feet was visibly quivering with indignation.

"All right, get it off your chest," said the chairman wearily. "But it doesn't matter what you say, you're out of order."

The indignant man spoke: "In the first place, Mr. Chairman, this meeting has not been called to order; the minutes of the last meeting have not been read; neither have there been any reports from committee chairmen, any old business or new business. According to the by-laws, all of these are supposed to precede the election of officers."

The chairman asked the parliamentarian "Is he right?"

The parliamentarian consulted the by-laws and nodded.

"Furthermore," said the indignant man, "Before the election of officers it is necessary to ask for nominations from the floor. This has not been done."

"If that's the way you feel," snapped the chairman. "Why bother having a nominations com-

mittee at all? I never asked for the the job."

Encouraging cries from the audience of: "You're all right! Nothing personal! Don't take offense!"

The chairman cleared his throat. "First of all, let me thank you for your very fine statement. I think I can truthfully say you've given us all some food for thought. And now that you've had your say, I hope you'll be fair-minded enough not to attempt to monopolize the discussion. Let us now complete the election of officers."

"All those in favor of the candidates whose names have been selected by your nominating committee?"

Shouts of "aye!"

"Opposed?"

Shouts of "no!"

"The ayes have it."

"Mr. Chairman, I demand a division of the house!"

Everyone whispered to everyone else, "What's that?"

The chairman asked the parliamentarian, and the parliamentarian shrugged.

I heard someone say, "A division of the house means they want him to count the votes," but no one paid any attention.

The audience began yelling again about points of order and points of information, the chairman told them again that they were out of order, and I left wondering whether the time had come for me to switch to the Vegetarian Party.

(December 2, 1965)

From "Our Neighbors"

The "little events" that give meaning to our lives are ably captured in a few lines of the column "Our Neighbors" written for 17 years by Elaine Skolnik.

Swarming around an ice cream truck down at the Center last week were crowds of youngsters - stretching their hands out for some free ice cream. The \$45 treat was on a very generous Marine who recently returned from Vietnam. He preferred to remain anonymous, but the kids of Greenbelt want to say "thank you."

(June 3, 1978)

From Don MacLean's column in the Washington Daily News comes this item about a well-known Greenbelter: "If reader Jim Smith doesn't make a million dollars someday, I'll be very surprised. The men's a genius, Mr. Smith . . . has figured out a way to put squirrels to work . . . To clean the leaves out of his roof he bought \$2 worth of walnuts and tossed them up on the house. They rolled into the gutters, and the squirrels, looking for them eagerly, scratched and kicked the leaves away." (Feb. 27, 1969)

According to the June 27 issue of the Keesler News, Biloxi, Mississippi, the world's wildest letter was claimed by Airman Alan Levine. The 24-year old native of 37G Ridge, received the 205-foot letter from his "sister, nine friends and a canary" shortly before arriving at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. Written on 2 1/4 inch calculator tape, the letter, which includes cartoons in full color, and a hole, is surely one of the most condensed an airman has ever received. However it took him two hours and 15 minutes to read it and "Lord knows how long to roll it up." (July 17 1969)

Steve Folke and George Mathews painted a sign more than 75 feet in length to take to the Washington-Oakland baseball game, September 30 at Kennedy Stadium. It was the longest sign ever brought to the stadium. It said "Don't be slow, Hondo, show Reggie you can go! go! go!" The sign was shown over TV and the boys and Mr. Mathews, who took them, were also televised. After the game the boys met their hero, who signed his autograph for them, stating, "Good Luck, Frank 'Hondo' Howard." (Sept. 4, 1969)

When councilman Dick Pilski recounted a story at the Annual City Employee Awards Dinner about a "bull" roaming about the Golden Triangle, I was skeptical. But believe it or not, it's a fact! About three weeks ago a heifer in some mysterious manner made its way to the 52-acre site. Speculation is that the animal fell from a passing truck. Unfortunately, the heifer met its demise when it ventured out on to the highway and was hit by a car. (Dec. 3, 1970)

Editorials We Remember

The News Review has taken editorial stands on many topics during its lifetime. We have not always been right, our views have not always been shared by the citizenry, but here are a few positions we have taken that we are proud of.

Looking Forward

Twice within the last month Greenbelt residents have demonstrated a quality of far-sightedness that has continually marked the community's history. In the greater interest of the entire community, a majority of Greenbelters have voluntarily chosen to tax themselves to provide a better place to live in.

The first occasion was the favorable vote on the \$950,000 city bond issue, which is expected to cost the equivalent of 15 cents per \$100 assessed value on the tax rate. The second was the vote of Greenbelt Homes, Inc., home-owners to raise their monthly charges 10 percent so that a full-scale, long-range capital improvement program could be initiated.

What a contrast with the situation reported in Youngstown, Ohio, where the city has been unable to get the voters to approve a tax levy in support of the schools since 1963. As a consequence, the schools there were forced to close for a month. And, according to the press, hardly anybody showed up at the next school board meeting to protest the closing.

Can you imagine Greenbelters reacting like that?

(December 26, 1968)

The Next Step

In the accompanying columns of the News Review there is reprinted in full a Business Week article on the fate of Greenbelt (along with another model town). Taking a rather pessimistic viewpoint, the article gives several reasons why Greenbelt has not lived up to its expectations.

The basic failure, the article says, is that the town "could not build the necessary greenbelt or buffer zone, which would limit growth, contain urban sprawl, and give the new (town) definition. . . . The town has never controlled decisions about the land it occupied, with zoning left to the commissioners of notoriously easy-going Prince Georges County. . . . Easy access lured apartment developers, and today Old Greenbelt is slowly being surrounded by groves of apartments rather than trees."

We do not think it is too late to reverse this trend. Up to now we have been fighting a rearguard action, securing postponements in zoning decisions, and purchasing certain crucial but small parcels of land which, if developed, would have presented the most flagrant abuse of the "planned community" concept.

Now is the time for us to strike out boldly and imaginatively. Much of the 230-acre buffer along the north and east part of "old Greenbelt" is still undeveloped. The city council has already proposed to the planning agencies reevaluation of the use of these areas. Let us now seriously consider the costs and problems that would be involved in city acquisition of all or parts of this land (parcels 1 and 2). Perhaps Federal and State "open-space" grant money will be available.

As the Business Week article implies, as long as that land is not owned by the city, decisions on its development will be out of the city's control and no one can foresee what the next shift in political winds will bring.

Let us not be afraid to put our money where our hearts are.

(February 4, 1971)

Congratulations to the News Review

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Over the past 35 years the News Review has been responsible for many, and assisted in most, of the worthwhile things that have happened in Greenbelt - things that make living in Greenbelt so satisfying and stimulating.

During the next 35 years life in Greenbelt will become more complex; more varied interests will be represented here; some of our old organizations and institutions will be going stale; others will have to run faster even to stay where they have been.

A bigger, more inquiring, more critical News Review will be needed to help all of us meet the demands and the opportunities that lie ahead without losing the essentials as well as the flavor of our unique community.

We know that Greenbelt will support such a paper. Twin Pines will do its part.

(Reprinted from the 30th anniversary)

Twin Pines Savings & Loan Assn.

Anatomy of a Libel Suit

On July 18, 1966 the Greenbelt News Review was hit with a \$2,000,000 libel suit initiated by a local real estate developer, Charles S. Bresler, who was a member of the State legislature and also a candidate for the post of Maryland State Comptroller at the time. The suit's main charge was that the newspaper had published defamatory remarks made against Bresler by citizens at public sessions of the Greenbelt city council in October, 1965. The remarks were directed to a proposal of Bresler's that had sought city support for rezoning for apartments a large tract of land (parcels 1 and 2.) he and his associates owned, in exchange for selling to the city another tract (parcel 15), favored by the city for a senior high school site. A Prince Georges county jury in January, 1968 found the remarks libelous and a \$17,500 judgment awarded Bresler was later affirmed by the Maryland Court of Appeals in May, 1969.

The case was successfully appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court which unanimously reversed and vacated the judgment in May, 1970. The nation's highest court ruled that the News Review was "performing its wholly legitimate function as a community newspaper when it published full reports of these public debates in its news columns."

The articles on this page are taken from the News Review files and depict the major events in the libel suit.

Chas. Bresler Files \$2,000,000 Suit Against News Review

A suit asking \$2,000,000 in damages has been filed by Charles Bresler, local developer, against the Greenbelt News Review and its president, Alfred M. Skolnik. The suit quoted excerpts from three news stories, two headlines, three letters to the editor, and two editorials over a 9-month period as being printed "without reasonable justification or excuse."

The quoted material for the most part dealt with Bresler's trans- actions and negotiations with the city council and county school board regarding his land holdings.

The suit, filed by Bresler's attorney Abraham Chasanow, on July 18, in the Prince Georges Circuit Court charges the newspaper with publishing material that exposed Bresler to "public scorn, hatred, contempt, disgrace and ridicule" and degraded him "in the esteem or opinion of the residents of the City of Greenbelt and the State of Maryland and elsewhere."

The suit further said that the material was published for the pur-

pose of imputing to Bresler "the commission of the crime of blackmail" and "corrupt and dishonest motives in his dealings with City, County and State officials and others."

The suit claims that such action injured Bresler in his business reputation and occupation and in his financial credit and transactions.

The News Review has engaged David Reich of the District and Maryland bar and the firm of Royall, Koegel, and Rogers of New York and Washington, D.C. to defend the action.

—July 28, 1966

News Review Loses Libel Suit, Jury Sets \$17,500 Damages

by Harry Zubkoff

Developer Charles Bresler won his libel suit against the Greenbelt News Review, instituted in July 1966, when an Upper Marlboro jury found the newspaper and its president, Alfred Skolnik, guilty of libel, and ordered \$17,500 damages to be paid to the plaintiff. A glum group of Greenbelters witnessed the closing moments of the trial which has gripped the community's interest during the past week.

After 5 days of testimony and arguments before Circuit Judge Robert B. Mathias, the trial ended on the afternoon of Tuesday, January 9. The jury deliberated for about three hours before reaching its verdict. Finding for the plaintiff, it awarded Charles Bresler a total of \$17,500 - \$5,000 in compensatory damages and \$12,500 in punitive damages. The defendant Alfred Skolnik heard the verdict calmly, but News Review partisans in the audience of the hushed courtroom were visibly shocked. The newspaper corporation was a co-defendant in the two million dollar lawsuit.

Counsel for the plaintiff, Abraham Chasanow, had based his case mainly on the charge that Skolnik and the newspaper had spearheaded a community-wide effort to discredit Bresler in Greenbelt, and that they had knowingly and with malice published false information about the plaintiff in a deliberate attempt to damage his reputation. Roger A. Clark and David Reich, counsels for the defense, had argued that the statements about Bresler published by the News Review represented fair comment about his public dealings as a land developer in Greenbelt. Furthermore, they argued that Bresler was a public figure, and newspaper comments about him were within the Constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press.

According to Chasanow, there

existed a strong connection between Skolnik and the News Review, the Citizens For a Planned Greenbelt (CFPG) and Greenbelt Homes, Inc., as well as members of the City Council and others. Two years ago, it was asserted, CFPG organized a fund-raising drive to finance legal actions; the money was later used in a lawsuit, in which a number of Greenbelt residents are suing for damages and in which Bresler and Chasanow are defendants.

Moreover, he said, in reporting on two City Council meetings, the News Review had quoted local citizens who had, in effect, characterized Bresler's proposals to Council as "blackmail." By imputing this serious crime to the plaintiff, Chasanow charged, the newspaper had damaged his reputation. Clark, on the other hand, did not argue that the charge of blackmail was true, but attempted to make clear that the term "blackmail", as used in the context of the articles in question, did not imply any criminal charge.

Clark noted there was wide community concern about Bresler's activities in connection with land development in Greenbelt. Expressions of this concern at city council meetings, he said, were faithfully reported in the paper.

Chasanow's summation, in addition to listing the charges, also in-

U.S. Supreme Court Reverses News Review Libel Judgment

In a unanimous 8-0 decision, the U. S. Supreme Court on Monday, May 18, reversed the \$17,500 libel judgment against the Greenbelt News Review awarded to local developer Charles S. Bresler as the result of a Prince Georges Circuit Court jury verdict in January, 1968. The verdict had been upheld by the Maryland Court of Appeals in May, 1969.

The main issue in the case involved the publication by the News Review of remarks made by citizens at two city council meetings in October, 1965 which characterized as "blackmail" a proposal of the developer that sought city support for rezoning.

Bresler's attorney, Abraham Chasanow, maintained that the articles imputed to Bresler "the commission of the crime of blackmail" and were published because the paper bore hostility toward Bresler.

In the decision rendered by Justice Potter Stewart, the court held "that as a matter of constitutional law, the word 'blackmail' in these circumstances was not slander when spoken, and not libel when reported in the Greenbelt News Review." The court referred to the fact that Bresler's negotiations with the city were a subject of substantial concern to all who lived in the community and had evoked substantial controversy and heated debates.

Publishing Reports Legitimate

Justice Stewart agreed with the argument put forward by the newspaper's attorney, Roger A. Clark, that the newspaper was "performing its wholly legitimate function as a community newspaper when it published full reports of these public debates in its news columns." To hold otherwise, the high court said, "would subvert the most fundamental meaning of a free press."

With respect to the word "blackmail," Stewart said, "it was simply impossible to believe" that the articles could be read as charging

Bresler with a crime. "Even the most careless reader," the Justice continued, "must have perceived that the word was no more than rhetorical hyperbole, a vigorous epithet used by those who considered Bresler's negotiating position extremely unreasonable."

Stewart noted that the articles published in the News Review were accurate, full, and truthful reports of what had been said at the public hearings before the city council.

Instructions to Jury

In reversing the judgment the court held that the instructions to the jury constituted an "error of constitutional magnitude." To define "malice," as the trial judge did, to include "spite, hostility, or deliberate intention to harm" Justice Stewart said, was contrary to the New York Times rule.

The New York Times rule precludes recovery in libel suits by public officials and public figures except where they can prove that a false and defamatory statement was made with knowledge that it was false or with reckless disregard of whatever it was false or not.

—May 21, 1970



The newspaper's attorney, Roger A. Clark, displaying the plaques (with the help of Elaine Skolnik) that were presented to him at a testimonial dinner on April 29, 1972 by the Greenbelt News Review and the Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee for his successful defense of the principle of freedom of the press before the Supreme Court. At far left is his wife, Kate Clark, and at the far right is News Review President Al Skolnik.

—May 4, 1972

Md. Court of Appeals Sustains Judgment in News Review Suit

A unanimous Maryland Court of Appeals on Friday, May 2, affirmed the \$17,500 libel judgment awarded local developer Charles S. Bresler against the Greenbelt News Review in a January 1968 Prince Georges Circuit Court jury verdict.

The appellant News Review had argued that the word "blackmail" was an expression of opinion used in a non-criminal, colloquial sense to mean the exercise of pressure, but Judge Wilson K. Barnes, who wrote the opinion for the five-man Court of Appeals, said that the intended meaning was for the jury to determine. "The charging of Mr. Bresler with having committed blackmail could be found by the jury (as it was) that he was charged with the commission of a crime," he said.

Judge Barnes rejected the appellant's argument that the "blackmail" articles were constitutionally protected because they were accurate reports of what was said during official public meetings of the Greenbelt city council regarding a public proposal of great interest to

the community. The court ruled that the Federal constitutional protection provided by the New York Times rule did not apply since there was "credible evidence" from which the jury could find that the newspaper published the articles with actual knowledge of the falsity of the charge of the commission of the crime of blackmail.

The court concluded that "there were sufficient facts to indicate to the jury an affirmative hostility, a personal animus against Bresler and a desire on the part of the publishers of the News Review to injure his reputation and standing in the Greenbelt area through the use of false charges." The Court of Appeals also found no prejudicial error in the rulings and charge of the trial court.

—May 8, 1969

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1937 - 1972

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—January 11, 1968

Anatomy of a Libel Suit (Continued)

Wedded to the News Review: Alfred and Elaine Skolnik

by Dorothy Sucher

Editor's Note: For the staff of the News Review, the last five years were dominated by the libel suit, which absorbed all the energies we had to spare. By far the greatest share of the burden was borne by our Board President, Al Skolnik, and his wife, Elaine. Since the character of their leadership was so important to us during this period, we felt that this special issue was the natural place to acknowledge it with a story about these two remarkable people.

This suggestion was not well received by the Skolniks, who have always disliked personal publicity. The Board nevertheless decided to override their objection because of our feeling that such a story was appropriate at this time; even more, that it would be a distortion to omit it.

Some people have a religion. The Skolniks have the *News Review*.

Crammed into their cheerful, spotless GHI house is a complete back file, in multiple, of the *News Review*. This is Alfred Skolnik's answer to the high cost of fire insurance; the *News Review* cannot afford to insure its office. Skolnik is archive-minded. When they drop the Bomb he will expire fretting that the files of the newspaper were in the target zone.

Even Elaine Skolnik rebels against keeping 5,000 old newspapers under the tea towels, but it doesn't help. Her husband, a man utterly without small talk, is a debater of massive obstinacy on the subjects that interest him. His knowledge of Greenbelt's history is encyclopedic and his memory phenomenal. Al is a walking morgue (newspaper morgue, that is).

Conservative Crusader

No one could be more unlike the popular idea of a crusading journalist than Skolnik. "Al is a deeply conservative liberal," says one of the newspaper's 40 former editors. "He always starts by saying: 'It's too strong. Can't we tone it down?'" Skolnik deplores controversy, loves compromise, and recoils from sensationalism of any kind. He is never happier than when lack of space compels the editor to omit the police news. Imperceptibly, idealism and stubbornness enmeshed him in the four year conflict that was the libel suit.

Al Skolnik became the unsalaried president of the Greenbelt Cooperative Publishing Co., publishers of the *News Review*, in 1959 and has been reelected every year. A native of New Jersey who has lived in Greenbelt for 20 years, he is chief of a research branch in the Social Security Administration and holds a Ph.D. in political science.

A neighbor persuaded the Skolniks to join the staff of the *News Review* in 1955 and for a few years Skolnik covered meetings as a reporter. His wife began to write the column, "Our Neighbors," which is still a popular feature.

Early Hardships

When Skolnik became president in 1959, the *News Review* was on the brink of the grave. Advertisers had quit, the morale of the shrinking staff was low, and the paper's indebtedness to the printer was growing greater every week. The Skolniks tried a door-to-door fund drive, followed by a second in 1960; they also solicited ads. To their relief, these campaigns were successful enough to make additional fund drives unnecessary (until the lawsuit came along).

The *News Review* gradually took over their lives, until now Elaine Skolnik says: "I don't think I could ever give it up."

Nor could her husband. "Al would do anything for the *News Review*," she says. "If the kids wanted him to take them someplace . . . well, maybe. But he'd travel miles to pick up the Pepco ad for the paper when it doesn't come in time."

"Al's not the kind of guy to get involved with the average organization. He doesn't go in for chitchat. With Al, there's got to be a purpose. He's very concerned about Greenbelt and about who is protecting the public interest. He thinks the public interest should be dominant over private interests. I'm echoing his words."

Al believes strongly in freedom of the press. "What people often forget," he says, "is that freedom of the press means not just the newspaper's right to publish without

harassment or intimidation, but also the citizen's right to express his views."

That is why he stresses so much the role of the newspaper in providing a forum for the exchange of views. "We have a liberal policy on printing letters to the editor. We feel this is very necessary. As reporters, we can strive to avoid errors, but we are only human. If any person feels that he is not given a fair shake in the newspaper's columns or feels that the issues have not been presented fairly, we urge him to use the Letters to the Editor column."

Zoning and Gossip

As for Elaine Skolnik, she is attractive and very feminine; few can resist her warmth and friendliness. Underneath a fluffy manner she is shrewd, skeptical and tireless in research. She has developed into an expert on the local zoning and sewage morass and an able reporter. "It's funny how you can think something's so boring until you get into it," she comments. The style of her gossip column may run to over-the-fence chat, but her news stories stick to essentials.

A veteran leader of civic campaigns and switchboard operator for the local grapevine, Elaine seems to know everybody in Greenbelt. To quote three women who know her well: "No matter how much she disagrees with you, she never gets nasty; she's a lady"; "Elaine's the most remarkable woman I know"; and "I think she ought to get the Pulitzer prize."

Some of the domestic repercussions of the lawsuit pained her. "I was always racing around to Marlboro or Washington—wherever work had to be done for our lawyers. Consequently, the children, who were used to having me at home, had a lot of adjusting to do, and I had a lot of guilt feelings. As for my mother?" she said. "Her reaction was unprintable. She thought I was fading away." (Elaine's weight hovers around 102 pounds and she lost ten pounds during the lawsuit.)

Taking a Stand

When Elaine was a coed studying occupational therapy at New York University, the last thing she imagined she'd ever find herself doing was newspaper work. "I never liked controversy and when there was an argument, I'd run in the other direction," she said. "I still don't like to argue, but the *News Review* has taught me you have to take a stand. It's given more substance to life."

"I love Greenbelt. You either like it or you don't. Some people find the entrance depressing, the clotheslines and frame homes unsightly. I never felt that way. They're part of the scene along with the trees, the parkland, and the wonderful recreational facilities a kid can walk to in safety."

"Greenbelt is a way of life—that's why I'm interested in zoning and the environment. Years ago there were few to defend the public. Fortunately, this is no longer the case—there are many now to carry the 'Greenbelt will never give up' banner. I remember when, in the mid-

COMMITTEE IS FORMED TO SOLICIT FUNDS FOR NEWS REVIEW LAW SUIT

A Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee has been formed as a result of the \$20,000 libel suit filed by land developer Charles S. Bresler against the *Greenbelt News Review* and its president, Alfred M. Skolnik. The Committee will solicit and collect funds inside and outside of Greenbelt to assist the defendants in meeting legal and other expenses incurred in connection with the suit.

The Committee is asking that contributions be mailed or deposited to the Committee's account at Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association, 105 Centerway.

The Committee will also conduct a door-to-door campaign for funds.

—August 4, 1966

Escrow Fund Being Collected To Back News Review Appeal

About 130 persons, attending a public meeting hastily called by the Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee on Friday, January 12, at the Greenbelt Municipal Building, voted unanimously to support the *News Review* in appealing its libel verdict. They also voted to set up an escrow fund made up of voluntary contributions, to serve as security for the \$17,500 judgment against the *News Review* while the case is under appeal.

In case the appeal is successful, all money contributed to the escrow fund, it was announced, would be returned with interest. In urging citizens to contribute to the escrow fund, the Committee said, "Seldom in our lifetimes are we privileged to make a direct contribution to protect one of our basic freedoms—freedom of the press. This is not just the *News Review's* right to report the news, but your right to be kept fully informed on what is going on in the community."

The meeting ended with the setting up of a committee to organize the fund raising, especially the

Press Escrow Fund Available for Refunds

The Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee disbanded officially last week with the announcement that the \$20,000 collected in the Freedom of the Press Escrow Fund in connection with the *News Review* libel case is now available for refund to contributors with interest. Contact should be made directly with Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association, custodian of the funds.

Charles F. Schwan and Albert K. Herling, co-chairmen of the Freedom of the Press Committee, joined the *News Review* staff in expressing their deep appreciation to the community for the support given the principle of freedom of the press.

They also wished to acknowledge the debt owed to the newspaper's attorney, Roger A. Clark of the firm of Royall, Koegel, and Wells, who successfully carried the case from the trial court to the U.S. Supreme Court on a volunteer basis.

—August 27, 1970

dle 1960's, we'd come home from Marlboro bloodied. Outside of Greenbelt we were known as nuts—oddballs.

"If you were defending the public interest, you were crazy. The pendulum has been swinging the other way, perhaps not fast enough, but enough so that we no longer feel we're always on the losing end."

The impact of the libel suit was not limited to the *News Review*. The community itself was outraged, for it saw a threat not only to the newspaper's freedom to report the activities of a public figure, but also to the public's right to know, to be kept informed of a public controversy that was being generated by his activities. Within a week, a Greenbelt Freedom of the Press Committee was organized, chaired by Charles S. Schwan and Albert K. Herling, to raise money for the newspaper's defense. When the *News Review* lost in the lower court, the Freedom Committee launched a successful drive to collect \$20,000 to cover the judgment while the case was appealed to the higher court. Altogether, the community contributed over \$30,000 and it was this evidence of community support that sustained the newspaper during the 4-year legal struggle.

Fight For Freedom

Have you ever thought of what it would be like to open your front door Thursday nights and find no *News Review* resting on the step? True, this happens once in a while when the newsboy is sick or makes a mistake, but then you can always pick up an extra copy at Twin Pines.

But if the *News Review* were to cease publishing, and the doorstep were empty every Thursday night, think of the vacuum that would exist. How would we know of actions City Council took, of decisions

made by the GHI board, of club meetings to be held, of swimming lessons registration—of a million and one things that make up the unique fabric of our lives in Greenbelt?

Let us not wait to see what our city would be like without our precious newspaper, which incidentally is free. Give generously to the *News Review* Legal Defense Fund (or Freedom of the Press Drive as it is also known) when the collector comes to your door. The *News Review* fights for your freedom to know—let us fight for its freedom to live.

—June 29, 1967

Gala Dance Is Planned For N-R Appeal Fund

A gala dance affair to raise funds for the appeal of the \$17,500 libel judgment against the *Greenbelt News Review* was approved at last Friday's Freedom of the Press rally in Center School. According to plans announced by subcommittee chairman Edwin Ross, the dance will be held at the Greenbelt Armory on Saturday evening, May 11.

The dance is one of many activities the subcommittee is considering to raise the estimated \$10,000 needed to cover the costs of carrying an appeal to the higher courts. About 100 persons attending the Friday meeting also voted unanimously to advise the newspaper to file an appeal.

—February 1, 1968

As Others Viewed It

While the U. S. Supreme Court decision of May 1970 had an immediate impact on the *News Review* because it relieved the newspaper of a \$17,500 libel judgment, outside sources saw a greater significance from the standpoint of freedom of the press. Given below are some views of the decision excerpted from the Nation's news media:

"The U. S. Supreme Court, reaffirming its commitment to free-wheeling debate on major issues, unanimously overturned yesterday the \$17,500 libel judgment . . ."

—Washington Post, May 19, 1970.

"Newspapers won clearance from the Supreme Court today to report in full controversial public meetings even if 'vigorous epithets' are used against a public figure. . . The high court said the First Amendment protects news articles even if hot words are used against an individual."

—The Evening Star, May 18, 1970

"The (Supreme Court) decision assured the press and broadcasters they cannot be held for libel for reporting free-swinging debate on public issues. . . The decision went on to say that the First Amendment strictly limits the scope of libel judgments so that the press may freely report issues of community concern without financial worry."

—AP release, May 19, 1970

"Montgomery County's Charles Bresler has become an unwitting principal in a Freedom of Information case which will be hailed by many as another long step forward in the continuing fight to maintain the right of citizens to freely speak out."

—Prince Georges Sentinel, May 21, 1970

"The Supreme Court broadened the constitutional defenses of newsmen against libel suits today by ruling that the press cannot be held liable for reporting exaggerated charges leveled against public figures when it is clear that the accusations are 'political hyperbole.' The ruling was another in a series of decisions by the Court in recent years to bolster the news media's First Amendment protections. . . Today's decision placed a constitutional restriction on the traditional legal assumption that a person falsely accused of a crime may recover damages for defamation even without proof that he has suffered monetary loss because of the libel. The opinion concluded that when charges that technically amount to an accusation of crime are made during heated public debate the charges cannot constitutionally be the basis of a libel or slander judgment if it is clear that there was no intention to accuse anyone of criminal conduct."

—New York Times, May 19, 1970.

"The United States Supreme Court, in a significant ruling that extends the concept of a free press, has held that newspapers cannot be held guilty of libel for accurately reporting heated debate among public figures on public issues. . . The High Court's elaboration of the First Amendment does not give the press license to slander, smear or libel. It strengthens the right to report accurately what people are saying in a public debate without fear of being hounded by (those) who think they can silence the press by threat of legal action."

—Madison, Wisc. Capital Times, May 20, 1970

Of Historical Interest

Since its inception in 1937, the News Review has tried to serve as the unofficial historian of the community; its files are Greenbelt's archives, and they are consulted by researchers in various fields. Of historical interest during the last five years was the official designation by the county of three historical sites in Greenbelt, as well as the retention of the name of Cipriano Road, which commemorates Joseph "Pop" Cipriano, a pioneer Greenbelt resident. We reprint the following articles for the benefit of newcomers to Greenbelt.

Indian Springs - An Inaccessible Site

by Virginia Beauchamp

To the several generations of Greenbelt children who have collected arrowheads at Indian Springs and held class picnics there June after June, the recent action of the MNCPPC in designating Indian Springs as an historical site will be gratifying. But to newcomers to the city—those who have moved to Greenbelt only within the last five years—the reference to Indian Springs may seem obscure. No class picnics are held there any longer; and though a couple of boys actually turned up arrowheads only two summers ago near the springs, they reached the place in a way remote from the habits of the Indians who first congregated there: they crawled through the storm sewer under the Beltway.

This method of exploration may do, of course, for active and agile boys; but until another route is found for adults to use, Indian Springs as an historical site will exist only as a point on a map at MNCPPC headquarters.

The springs, where tribes of Indians held their council meetings, used to be reached from a winding path cutting south through the woods from the bridge at the outlet of the lake. But construction of the Beltway and the Beltway exits to and from Kenilworth have demolished virtually all of that ancient route. If one wants to traverse the muddy and bushy terrain of the Golden Triangle, entering either from Greenbelt Rd. or from Kenilworth, he can find the springs in a small piece of woodland left intact at the north end of the property, hard against the Beltway. The one and a half acre site which also includes the Walker cemetery (also to appear on the Commission's historical map), was dedicated to the city as an arm of the lake park tract when the federal government sold its interest in the community. But construction of the Beltway destroyed the only access to the property across public land.

What plans the present owners of the Golden Triangle may have for providing access to Indian Springs is unknown. For several years the remainder of the Golden

Triangle property, which is zoned for commercial development, has been advertised for tenants. At such time as a subdivision plat is filed for development of the Golden Triangle tract, the city will require dedication of a right-of-way to Indian Springs.

Until that time, it will belong only to little boys.

February 26, 1970

Retention of Cipriano Road Name Assured

by Elaine Skolnik

Cipriano Road, an historical landmark named after "Pop" Cipriano, will not be renamed after all. This was the decision of the Prince Georges County Planning Board at its meeting on Jan. 19. The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Technical Staff, in its efforts to solve the present confusion at the intersecting Cipriano, Good Luck and Telegraph Roads, had recommended that Cipriano Road be renamed Telegraph Road and thus reduce three road names to two.

The Greenbelt City Council vigorously opposed the renaming of Cipriano Road, which is located about a mile and a half east of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway opposite NASA. It felt that the road paid tribute to the man who was a pioneer in early road construction in this area. Objections to the change were also voiced by local citizens and state and county officials.

"Pop" Cipriano, 92 years old, settled in this area in 1910. He bought 100 acres of Glenn Dale Rd. (then known as Prince Garden Road). He was the moving force in making the road passable, using his own labor, and later in getting the county to open a two-mile stretch of the road, connecting the communities of Glenn Dale and Branchville for the first time. This was in 1932. A gala party was held, attended by many high officials, who hailed this important link which cut the distance over improved roads from Branchville to Glenn Dale from 17 to 6 miles. January 22, 1970

Midsummer Madness

(A controversy that seems to flare up every August in the Letters to the Editor column concerns the Miss Greenbelt pageant, an annual feature of The Labor Day Festival. We reprint a few representative comments.)

In a letter to the editor recently published it seems that one individual has the wrong impression and interpretation of the pageant and has emphasized SEX as the only qualification required for a girl to become a participant. In my articles in the newspapers, my interview on television, and as Mistress of Ceremonies in the introduction of the contestants each year SEX was never mentioned as one of the traits that the judges were to consider in making their decision. . . . The only qualifications listed for the judges to consider are poise, beauty, personality, charm and appearance.

(August 5, 1971)

A recent letter staunchly defended the contest and rebuffed those who thought sex, or SEX, as the writer put it, was the only characteristic measured by the judges. She also stated that she received many phone calls after a letter denouncing the contest had been printed in the News Review.

I really should have thought about calling her, but I didn't. Sex is a very important, even primary, characteristic that must be seen by the judges.

There is absolutely no reason why this meat market must go on every year, and, even worse, involve people from Greenbelt.

(August 26, 1971)

As a former Miss Greenbelt I do not feel that entering the pageant and presenting myself before the public was immoral, but rather a rewarding and enriching experience — not because I won but because I met many wonderful girls, all of whom I'm sure enjoyed the event as much as I did. I also came in contact with many adults, not only festival officials but city and county officials as well. They too were wonderful and treated the girls with due respect.

(August 26, 1971)

The purposes of the Festival

Queen contest have been questioned in the past, and it has been suggested, by several civic groups, that the honoring of an outstanding Greenbelt citizen, rather than the selection of a Queen, would be more in keeping with the actual purpose of the Labor Day Festival. We agree!

If, instead, the Festival is committed to honoring adolescence, then we, as an organization devoted to the achieving of full quality between the sexes, suggest that a

King also be selected. Using similar judging criteria, the King should be in late adolescence, have a good complexion, regular features, be well muscled and have shoulders broader than hips, be able to sing or dance well, and have a brilliant smile. These suggested criteria, though given with tongue in cheek, should serve to highlight the fact that contests such as this are ultimately demeaning to both sexes.

(Aug. 24, 1972)

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Greenbelt Included Among MNCPPC Historical Sites

The Prince Georges County Planning Board has designated as historical sites the following Greenbelt locations: Indian Springs, where Indian tribes held their conclaves prior to the arrival of the white man. Among the list of the local tribes to inhabit the area were the warlike Senecas and Sinnehannas. Until recent years, arrowheads were found in the woods.

Walker Cemetery where revolutionary war figures, Isaac Walker and his son, Nathan, were buried. In 1756 Isaac Walker received a patent of land for 200 acres for **SIDELIGHTS ON THE NEWS** Incident

GHI Manager Roy Breashears brought a member's request before the board, and Schwan, looking desperately at the clock and hoping to refer the matter back to the manager for a decision, asked Breashears, 'Is the members letter addressed to the board?' Unabashedly, Breashears replied, 'No. It is addressed to Gentlemen.' May 29, 1969

the south-western portion of Greenbelt. A descendant sold the property to the Federal Government when the town of Greenbelt was in the early planning stages. A monument was erected here by the DAR in 1938.

City of Greenbelt, a development potentially historic by virtue of its having been the first experience by the Federal Government in providing planned community housing for the low income level. Only the oldest portion of the town is of the original design.

(Jan. 22, 1970)

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WE GET LETTERS . . .

Over the years, some of the most revealing insights into Greenbelt have been found in the Letters to the Editor column. Here are a few examples:

My husband and baby and I have been residents of Greenbelt only since last December, and now we are moving to Minneapolis. However, before leaving, we did want to write to say how much we enjoyed living here. Greenbelt is unique in its marvelous sense of community spirit, at least in our experience. We have enjoyed participating in this town's activities and we hope someday to find a community as nice as Greenbelt.

(August 8, 1968)
Greenbelt is an established well-planned community which I feel breeds good upbringing through the fine facilities and programs offered to all, but has it gone to the dogs? Some areas of town, maybe no, but other areas definitely yes.

Whatever happened to the simple rule of no pets? Or easier still (logic says animals are in) what's to prevent loud barking at night, and animals running astray, and general nuisance aspects in particular?

I don't know the answer, but it could and should be considered.

(May 22, 1969)
The Center Hill tunnel is being painted by (I guess) the Center School children. What a wonderful idea! Instead of the obscenities that reigned since Halloween we have an enormous mouse on the ceiling (my favorite), the sun, earth, and moon, various school activities, and lions on either side of the entrance. I hope this catches on and that every tunnel in Greenbelt (and everywhere) will be so graced.

(May 29, 1969)
I am a lonely flagpole. For over two years I have stood here but never a flag has flown from here.

I am supposed to belong to all the GHI homeowners and renters. I represent, when the flag is flown, the patriotism of all the people in Greenbelt. I am only the flagpole. No good without a flag. The GHI board is the elected representatives of all the people. They ignore me completely. Management is not hired to put up a flag on a lonely pole.

The board, I am told, is where the power of the people rests. How about it, board? Are you all too

good or above doing the task of showing passersby that you love the flag and love your responsibilities to the community and to your country by flying the flag from me, a lonely and otherwise useless pole.

Dont shirk your place in the sun by trying to give management a task that is yours and yours alone.

Too busy. Sorry, I am very lonely without a flag to fly.

The Flagpole of Hamilton Place
(June 19, 1969)

To bullet vote or not to bullet vote, that is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to vote for only one man, and allow my other four votes to go uncast, or whether having suffered those famed "slings and arrows of outraged fortune" from my favorite "son" should I not choose another four council members, since it will indeed take more than one outraged fortune to decide council issues for the next two years. (September 11, 1969)

We have met some wonderful people during our short stay here. I would like to take just a moment while my husband is busy packing (for our trip to California) to thank each and everyone of you, for your kindnesses, your friendliness, your generosity and your enthusiasm for life in general.

Greenbelt is like the last of the Leprechauns — it has a magic all its own in a town-type setting that is fast disappearing from this country. You Greenbelters may not always agree on the "how" but you certainly agree on the "whys" for a better community. You care! That's the magic ingredient!

Sound corny? Well, you're a corny community — caring went out of style years ago.

(June 25, 1970)

We were sitting in our yard enjoying the beauty of a spring Sunday, when one of our out-of-town guests, a former Greenbelter visiting with his bride, spoke.

"Remember when it was against the law in Greenbelt to hang wash on the line on Sunday?"

All eyes turned in the direction he was looking to see a neighbor, in total disregard, hanging out the weekly wash. Immediately the beauty that can be Greenbelt on a spring Sunday afternoon, was spoiled. For the sake of his new wife who was seeing Greenbelt for the first time, he added,

"And it was a good law too."

Why not respect the aesthetic sensibilities of our neighbors? Why insult their vision on Sunday when one does not normally hang out the wash? Rather let them enjoy the landscape on which much money and hard work have been spent. We, who wish to be proud of Greenbelt, do not appreciate anyone or anything that makes it look like Shantytown, instead of the Greenbelt it was meant to be. Oh, for the early days in Greenbelt when this affront would be unlawful.

(June 24, 1971)

Has anyone noticed (amidst all the criticism of Greenbelt and GHI) that they are living in one of the prettiest cities in the area? A city full of flowering crabapple trees plus many others due to the foresight of Hans Jorgenson and the early board of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. and the city council of those middle '50s.

We've had foreign and out-of-town visitors during the last few weeks and we were proud to show them around the first planned community with its excellent city facilities and convenient location. After 26 years in Greenbelt I'm still proud to live here and proud

of the many people who have made Greenbelt what it is today.

(April 29, 1971)

Have you strolled, jogged, or biked around the lake recently? If not, you are missing a stimulating experience. The bare trees are lovely, and the cold air is good to breathe.

As somewhat of a newcomer to Greenbelt I hold these moments as dear when I am near the lake. What is left of the natural habitat is refreshing.

Those with ideas of making sterile changes please don't — don't rain on my parade! ! !

(Feb. 3, 1972)

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Brickbats and Backpats

"Newspapers, no matter how small an area their circulation covers, or how many people read them, are supposed to report facts. In order to report a story accurately, a reporter may have to go to several sources before writing his story, to collect these facts. Obviously, this is not what one of your reporters did prior to writing the article 'Fire Damages Athletic Club', which appeared in the February 20, 1969 issue.

In the first paragraph of the article, there were several 'facts' conveyed to the reader about the fire. In truth, the only accurate statements in the first paragraph were the ones stating where the fire was, and what night it occurred."

(February 27, 1969)

"Congratulations and thanks to your reporters for their very fair and accurate article on the Springhill Lake golf course. I hope it will restore a bit of reason to a controversy which has become terribly political and acrimonious. The people involved seem to be wearing blinders, hiding from the facts they consider uncomfortable or inconvenient. It won't work."

(January 28, 1971)

"You are so blinded by your unholy search to find someone doing something wrong so that you can debase him, that you overlook as one of the truly top stories the more important facet of this story, namely the opening of the largest enclosed mall shopping center in Prince George's County in your little City of Greenbelt.

This news event, which was important enough to be featured in many of the trade publications, realty newspapers and magazines all over the country, is relegated to oblivion and ignored, in favor of some ridiculous claim that some part of a Building Permit requirement was not observed, by the pip-squeak Greenbelt News Review, whose readers get all of the advantages of this tremendous addition to their economy and status, be-

cause it can't see the good that is being done due to its unhealthy search for evil."

(January 13, 1972)

"In response to Sidney Brown's letter which was published in the January 13 edition of the News Review, I would like to applaud the News Review for putting your story on his 'small erosion and pollution problem' in your list of 'Top Ten Stories.' It's not at all strange that Mr. Brown would myopically and condescendingly view your story as a disservice to him, the community and journalism in general. or is it strange that Mr. Brown arrogantly refers to your small newspaper as 'pip-squeak,' that this small newspaper 'can't see the good that is being done due to its unhealthy search for evil,' or that your newspaper is 'so blinded by your unholy search to find someone doing something wrong so that you can debase him...'"

(January 27, 1972)

"I have been very busy defending your style of reporting against the charge that it is an attempt to rewrite Greenbelt history. I have gone so far as to say that the City Council meetings have been so long that it is understandable for a reporter to cut out a few quotes here

NEWS REVIEW READERS

Do Greenbelters read the News Review? Yes, according to a questionnaire put to voters during the city election in September, 1970. The survey showed that 78% of local residents read the newspaper.

This figure would have been much higher but for Springhill Lake, where only 44% of the respondents read the News Review. In G.H.I. and single family areas, the percent of people who read the News Review was 97% and 95% respectively. It should be noted that at Springhill Lake many residents indicated they didn't get delivery of the News Review or that delivery was sporadic. The News Review has been aware of this situation and has taken steps to bring more complete delivery to residents of Springhill Lake.

and there, and even fall asleep sometimes and miss entire statements.

Last week's account of the March 20th council meeting held no journalistic surprises. Your readers were treated to words like "Specious and fallacious..."

(March 30, 1972)

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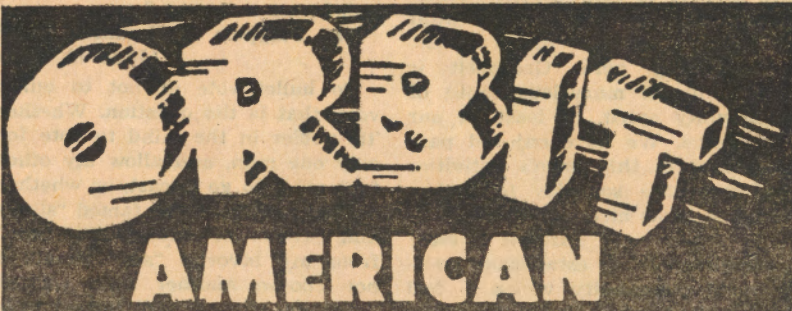
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on its

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137 Centerway



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for Thirty-Five Years of
dedicated service to the community

GREENBRIAR APARTMENTS